

# **Kentucky Juvenile Crime Analysis: 2006**

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# Kentucky Juvenile Crime Analysis

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The 2006 Juvenile Crime Analysis was made possible through data extraction and integration processes that relied on information from a number of state government agencies and data systems. In general, the report represents data for a four year time span: Calendar Years 2002 through 2006.

The authors express appreciation to the collaborating agencies.

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## **I. Overview**

The 2006 Juvenile Crime Analysis for Kentucky was conducted by David May and Yanfen Chen at Eastern Kentucky University. The purpose of this analysis was to update the 2005 Juvenile Crime Analysis that was submitted to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice with data from 2006. As outlined in the 2005 report (May & Chen, 2007), the purposes of the Juvenile Crime Analysis are to:

- Delineate the needs and problems of juveniles entering the system;
- Describe trends in populations served;
- Understand complex relationships between persons served, disposition, service delivery and outcomes; and
- Produce information in a manageable format.

As in the 2005 report, the data used in this analysis were retrieved from a number of state and national data bases. These data sources included:

- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Sourcebook
- State Data Center (census, KIDS Count)
- State Police (Crime in Kentucky report)
- Administrative Office of the Courts
  - ✓ Court Designated Worker (CDW) data base
  - ✓ Juvenile Court Involvement (arrest and disposition)
- Department of Education
- Kentucky Center for School Safety
- Department of Community Based Services (child abuse and neglect)
- Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (mental health and substance abuse services)
- DJJ Detention data base
- DJJ Juvenile Offender data base (JORI)

In this report, we continue the efforts from the 2005 analysis to obtain agency-specific information relevant to juveniles at risk of (or involved in) delinquent behavior and to connect the various data sources and trends for DJJ youth. DJJ staff provided statewide cumulative data on bookings and placements while the Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services provided aggregate data regarding mental health and substance abuse services for DJJ youth. The Administrative Office of the Courts provided individual level data to create tables pertaining to specific charges and outcomes throughout the state. Statewide data were obtained from the remaining agencies to provide context for the arrests, charges, and outcomes presented throughout the report.

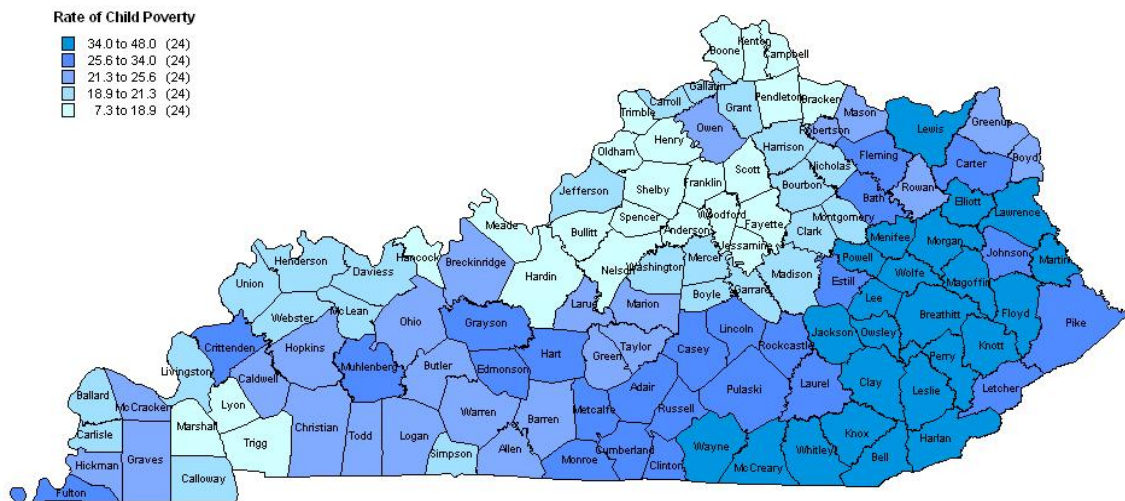
## II. The Context for Juvenile Crime

Given that all delinquency and subsequent reactions to delinquency occur in the context of the larger community, it is important to understand community contextual factors. We begin with a look at two county-level demographic variables that have traditionally been associated with juvenile crime: child poverty rate and county median household income. Rates for both these variables are plotted at the county level in **Figures 1 and 2**.

### Poverty and Family Functioning

Indicators of low socioeconomic status can be found in a variety of public sources, including the census, government services, and health databases. The results presented in **Figure 1** depict the child poverty rate by county. The child poverty rate is defined as the percentage of children who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (KIDS Count, 2007). Counties with higher child poverty rates are depicted in darker blue colors. It is clear that child poverty rates are much higher in the eastern counties than in the other parts of the state.

Percentage of Children in Poverty by County - 2004

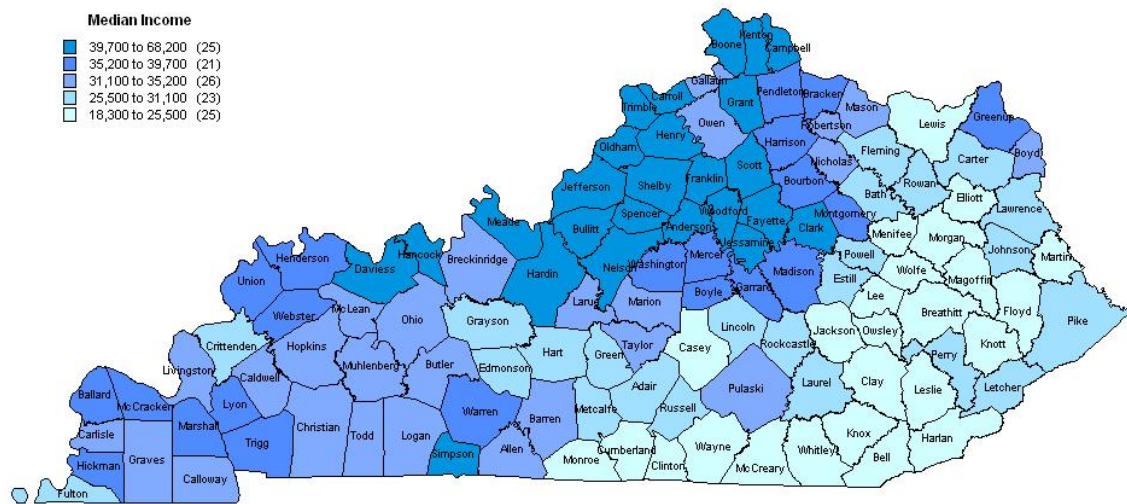


Source: 2007 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 1

The results presented in **Figure 2** depict the county level median-household income. A comparison of **Figures 1 and 2** indicates dramatic differences by region on measures of county level economic strength; again, counties in eastern Kentucky have much lower median household income levels than their counterparts in other regions throughout the state.

## Median Household Income by County - 2004



Source: 2007 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

**Figure 2**

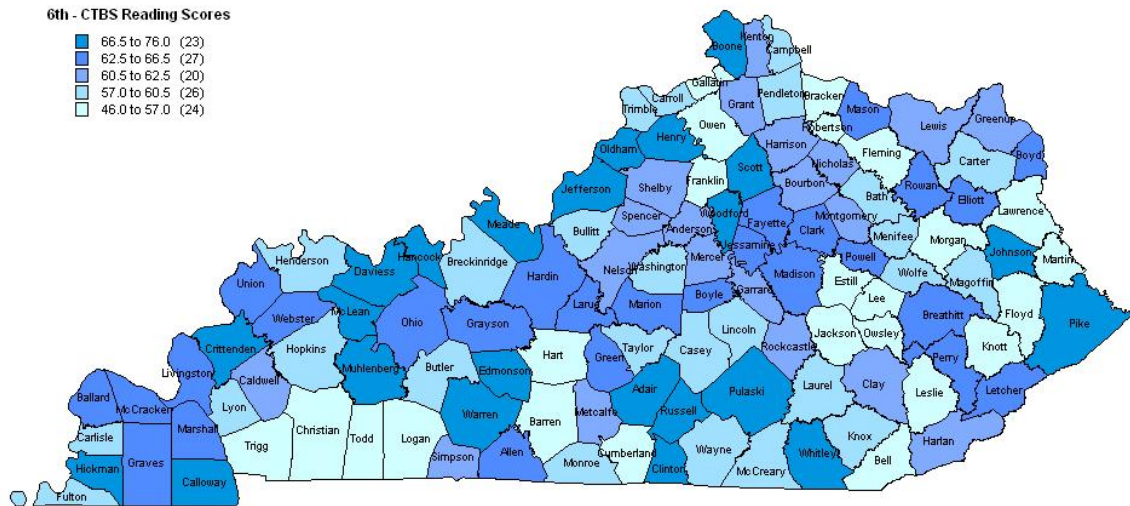
### School Bonding and Achievement

Research on risk and protective factors associated with delinquency reveals that children who do well in school, and who feel a connection with the school, are less likely to engage in criminal behavior. Similarly, long term risk factors for juvenile violence include academic failure, low commitment to school, and low school attachment (see R.E.A.C.H., 2005 for review).

The next two maps (**Figures 3 & 4**) use data from the Kentucky Department of Education. Information on Kentucky's 176 school districts was collapsed into data elements on each of the 120 counties. In counties with more than one school district, a county Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) score was calculated by estimating by using the district CTBS scores to calculate an average CTBS score for the county. The results presented in the first map (**Figure 3**) depict county-level scores on the reading portion of the sixth grade level of the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) test given to students throughout the state of Kentucky. Children who reside in the dark blue counties have, on average, the highest reading scores. Conversely, children in the lightest shaded counties have, on average, the lowest 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading scores. The data presented here indicate limited regional patterns regarding CTBS test scores.



## CTBS reading scores: Exiting primary level (Grade 6) - 2006

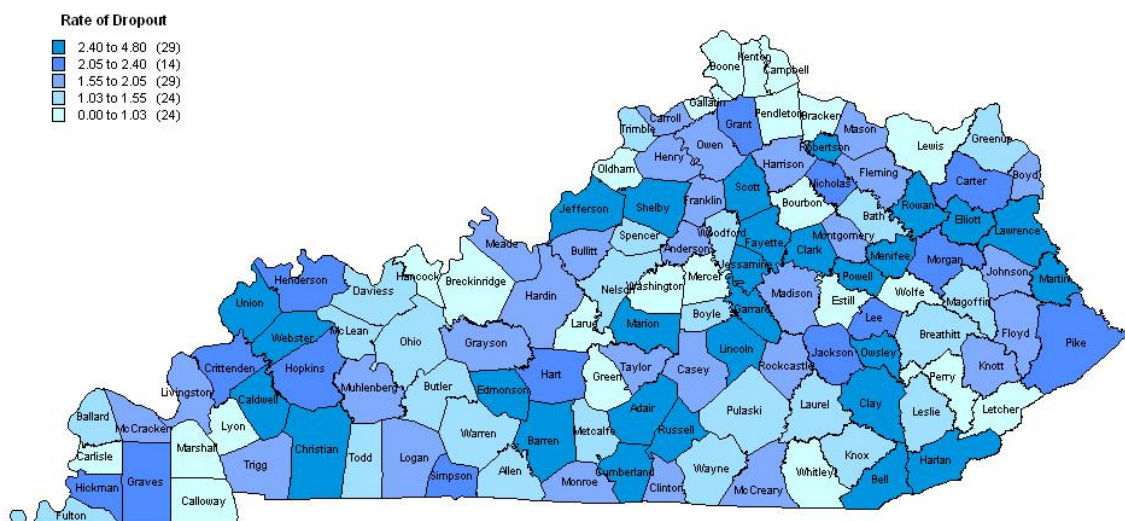


Source: Kentucky State Data Center, KY Dept of Education

**Figure 3**

The data presented in **Figure 4** portray the county school drop out rates. A student is counted as a dropout in Kentucky if they were enrolled in school at some time during the previous year and: (a) was not enrolled at the beginning of the current school year; (b) had not graduated from high school or some other educational program; and (c) did not transfer to another district, was not temporarily absent due to suspension, and had not passed away (Luallen, 2006). The counties shown in dark blue have the highest percentage of youth who drop out of school before their high school graduation. Interestingly, little correlation exists between county-level CTBS scores and county-level dropout rate.

## County-level School Dropout Rates - 2006



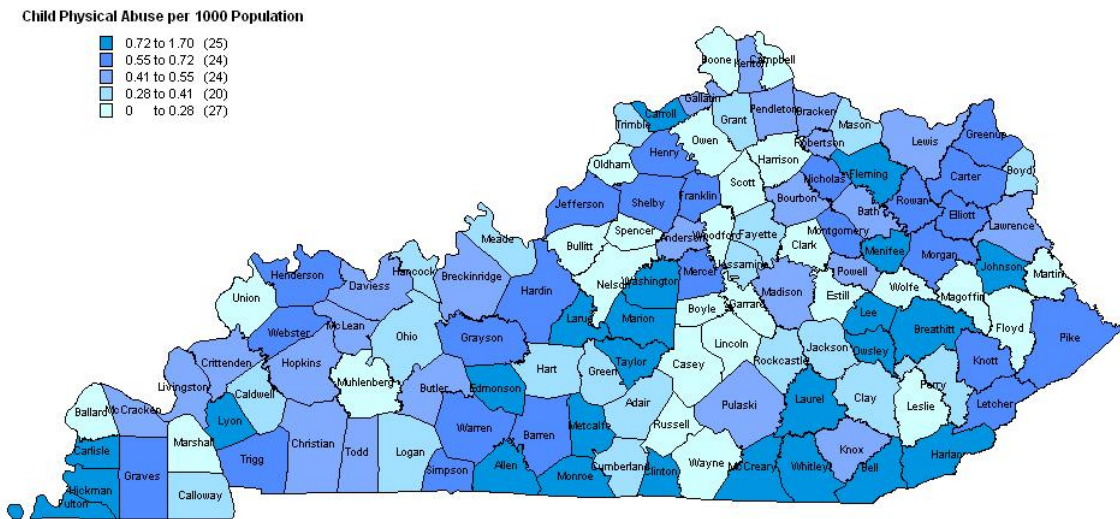
Source: Kentucky State Data Center, KY Dept of Education

**Figure 4**

## Family Violence

As the 2005 report indicated, child neglect and abuse are also associated with delinquency at both state and national levels. The data presented in the next two maps (**Figures 5 & 6**) utilize information from 2007 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book , from the Kentucky Youth Advocates to reveal the child abuse and child neglect rates (rate per 1000 population). As with the prior socioeconomic factors, these problems are concentrated much more heavily within the eastern Kentucky counties. Presumably, the rate of neglect experienced among children in these counties is related to the poverty that exists within this area of the Commonwealth.

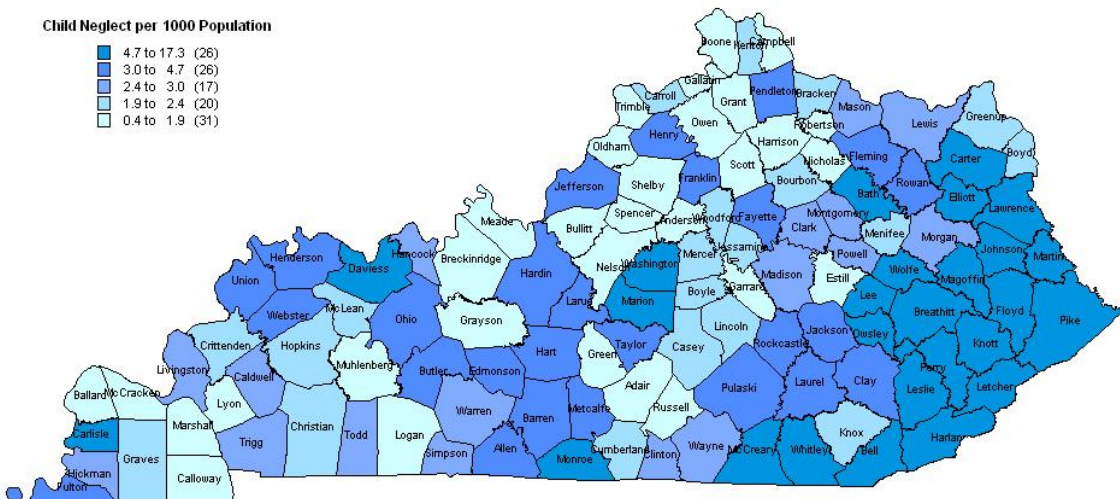
### Rate of Child Physical Abuse (per 1000 Population) - 2006



Source: 2007 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 5

### Rate of Child Neglect (per 1000 Population) - 2006



Source: 2007 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 6

### III. Juvenile Offenses

#### A Comparison to Other States

Information from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was used to compare the rate of juvenile crime in Kentucky to other states. The most recent data available were from 2004; as such, the data presented in **Table 1** and **Figures 7-10** depict juvenile violent crime rates for that year.

**Table 1: State Juvenile Arrest Rates (per 100,000 persons)\***

State	Juvenile Arrest Rate per 100,000 Persons			
	Violent Crime Index	Property Crime Index	Drug Abuse	Weapons
Alaska	204	1599	375	52
Alabama	125	760	245	30
Arkansas	142	1481	383	63
Arizona	236	1796	833	79
California	347	1109	495	189
Colorado	228	2012	707	148
Connecticut	295	1194	565	97
District of Columbia	NA	NA	NA	NA
Delaware	491	1762	661	173
Florida	468	1951	764	147
Georgia	335	1542	607	165
Hawaii	237	1369	371	35
Iowa	246	1835	378	31
Idaho	162	1880	530	134
Illinois	985	1857	2534	385
Indiana	323	1283	448	29
Kansas	157	1190	513	64
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>2083</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>82</b>
Louisiana	401	1977	597	76
Massachusetts	270	509	355	40
Maryland	511	1965	1245	234
Maine	101	1749	566	33
Michigan	147	902	313	56
Minnesota	170	1702	595	94
Missouri	289	1613	622	96
Mississippi	125	1514	571	100
Montana	NA	NA	NA	NA
North Carolina	243	1361	423	179
North Dakota	59	1866	385	72
Nebraska	119	1942	615	99
New Hampshire	73	804	601	11
New Jersey	360	884	661	217
New Mexico	266	1236	634	148

Table 1. (Continued)

<i>State</i>	<i>Juvenile Arrest Rate per 100,000 Persons</i>			
	<i>Violent Crime Index</i>	<i>Property Crime Index</i>	<i>Drug Abuse</i>	<i>Weapons</i>
Nevada	271	1686	328	72
New York	260	1117	529	82
Ohio	148	1063	379	65
Oklahoma	196	1610	486	82
Oregon	221	2033	623	76
Pennsylvania	419	1177	560	133
Rhode Island	222	1340	563	161
South Carolina	277	1051	427	86
South Dakota	90	1575	416	68
Tennessee	236	1173	541	112
Texas	190	1329	608	67
Utah	174	2622	598	171
Virginia	120	814	316	88
Vermont	66	484	256	19
Wisconsin	212	3018	896	223
West Virginia	58	601	164	25
Wyoming	126	1689	1038	99
Washington	236	1970	474	124

\* To facilitate comparisons, states contiguous to Kentucky are highlighted within the table.

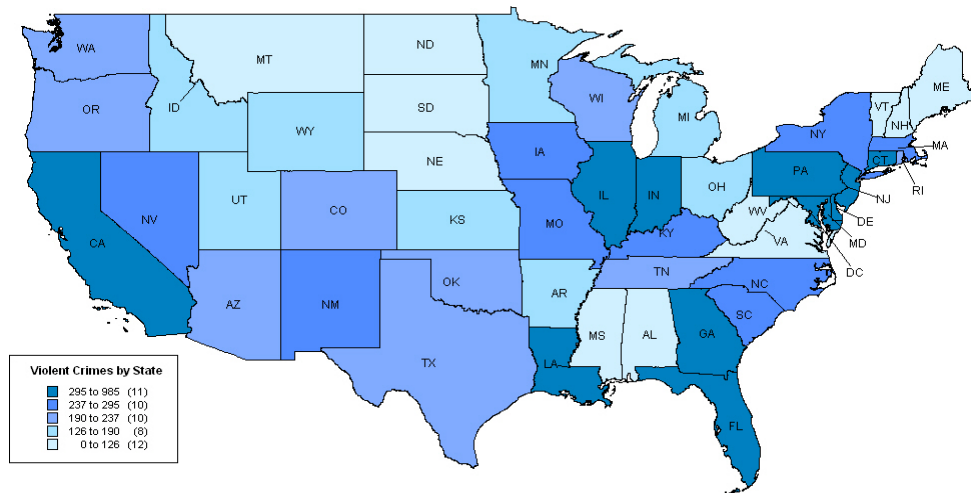
**Violent Crime:** Kentucky ranks 18<sup>th</sup> among the states on the violent crime index (248); nevertheless, this rate is comparable to the average rate of southern states (242). That rate in Kentucky is higher than rates in the bordering states of Illinois, Indiana and Missouri but lower than the rates in the states of Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

**Property Crime:** Kentucky ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> among the states on the juvenile property crime index (2083), a rate much higher than the average rate of the southern states (1361) and a rate that is also higher than any of its bordering states.

**Drug Abuse:** Kentucky ranks 5<sup>th</sup> on the drug abuse rate (892), a rate much higher than the average rate of the southern states (532). The drug abuse rate in Kentucky is lower than the rate of Illinois but higher than all the remaining border states.

**Weapon Crime:** Kentucky ranks 26<sup>th</sup> on the weapons crime rate (82); again, this rate is higher than the average weapon crime rates of southern states (72). The weapon crime rate of Kentucky is higher than the bordering states of West Virginia, Indiana and Ohio but lower than the rates of Virginia, Missouri, Tennessee and Illinois.

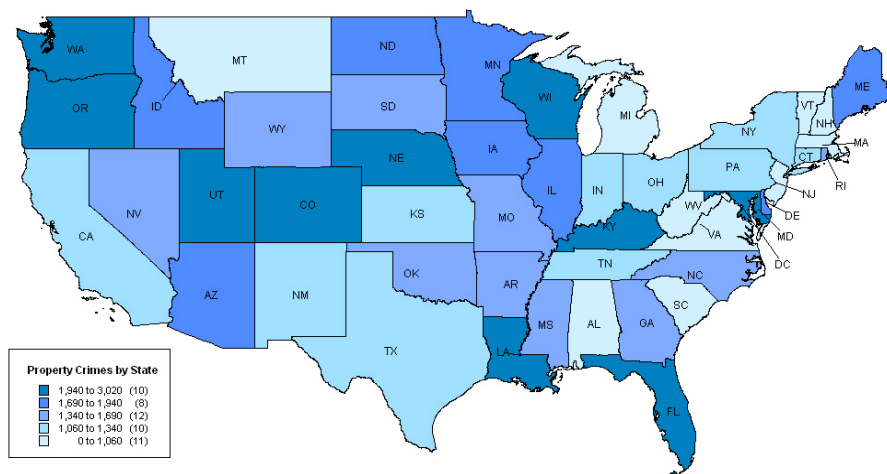
### Rate (per 100,000) of Juvenile Violent Crimes (2004)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 7

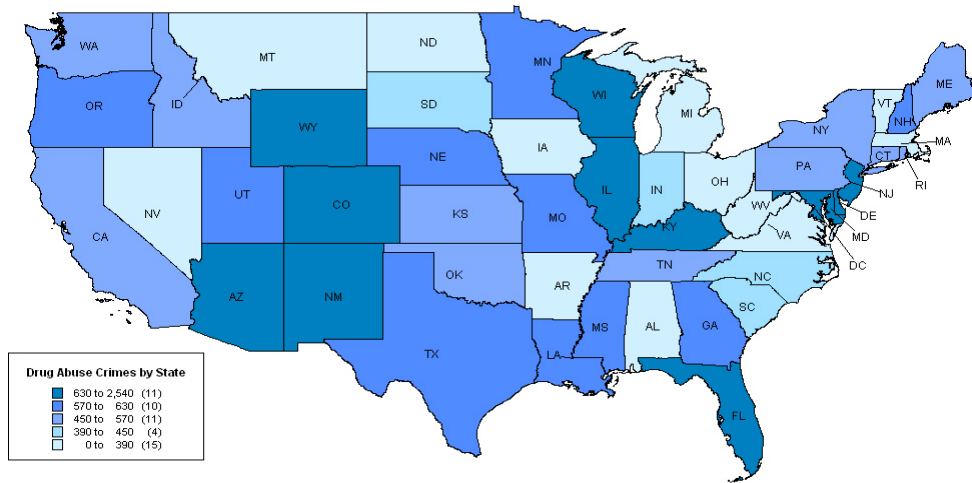
### Index of Juvenile Property Crimes (2004)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 8

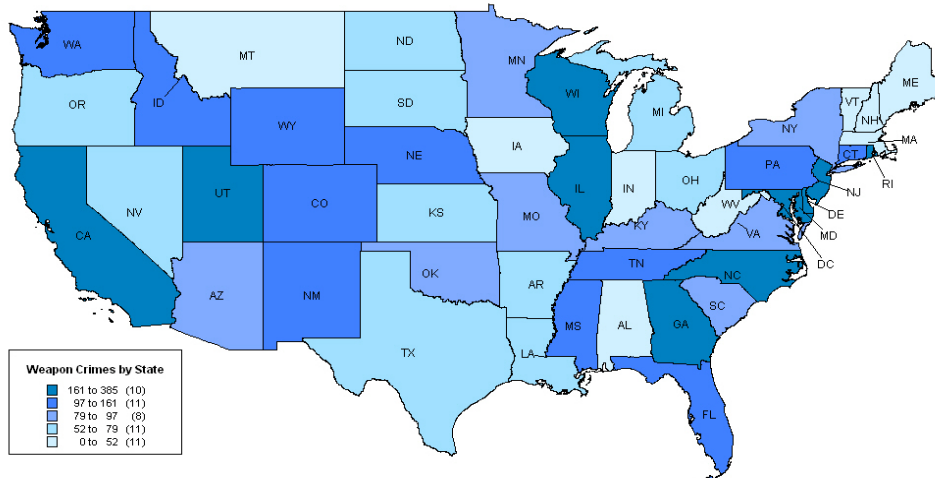
### Index of Juvenile Drug-Related Crimes (2004)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 9

### Index of Juvenile Weapon Crimes (2004)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 10



## Offense Types and Trends among Kentucky Youth

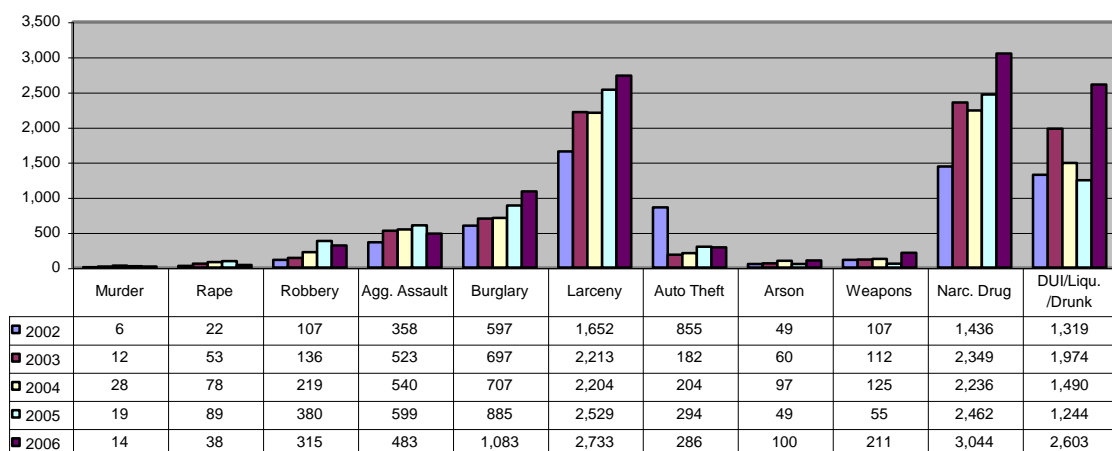
Information about the types of offenses committed by juveniles and the trends in the occurrence of these acts was derived from three sources: the Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Center for School Safety, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. All sources record Part I and Part II law violations. **Part I Law Violations** are the most serious offenses. The Part I Law Violations and the Kentucky definitions are listed below.

**Table 2. Definition of Part I Crimes (from Kentucky State Police website)**

Crime	Description
Murder	The unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought.
Forcible Rape	The forcible carnal knowledge of a person against the person's will.
Robbery	Felonious taking of the property of another by force, the threat of force, violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear.
Aggravated Assault	The unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.
Burglary	The unlawful entering or remaining in a building with the intent to commit a crime.
Larceny-Theft	The unlawful taking of property or articles of value without the use of force, violence, or fraudulent conversion.
Auto Theft	All thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles.
Arson	Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn (with or without intent to defraud) a residence, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property, etc.

**Juvenile Arrests 2002- 2006**  
**Part I Crimes + Weapon and ATOD Violations**

Source: Kentucky State Police Crime Facts



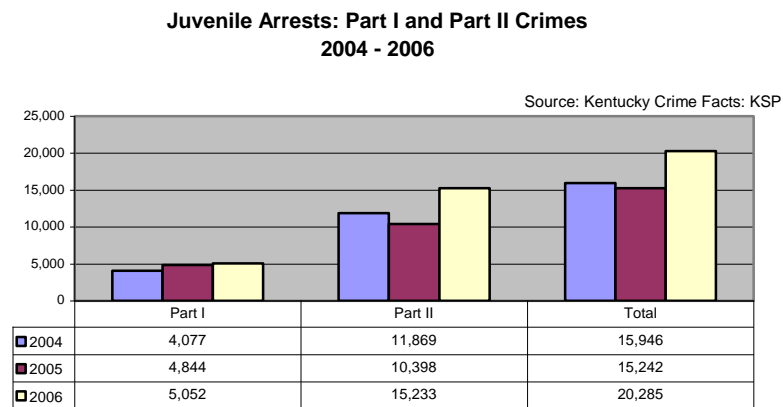
**Figure 11**

**Figures 11 and 12** incorporate data collected by the Kentucky State Police from the approximately 400 law enforcement jurisdictions throughout Kentucky. The data presented in **Figure 11** depict five-year trends in Part I violations, along with weapons, narcotics, and DUI violations. The data suggest that (with the exception of murder, arson, and weapons violations) juvenile arrests for Part I violent, property, weapons, drug-, and alcohol-related crimes have risen steadily over the past five years.

Part II law violations are considered less serious offenses than Part I law violations. Part II law violations include (but are not limited to) crimes such as the following:

- Simple Assault
- Disorderly Conduct
- Drug Abuse
- Drunkenness
- Sex Offenses
- Stolen Property
- Weapons

The data presented in **Figure 12** depict three-year trends in juvenile crimes when all juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II offenses are considered. Juvenile arrests for both Part I and Part II crimes increased over the three-year period, with the increase for Part I crimes (23.9% over the three-year period) being somewhat smaller than the increase for Part II crimes (27.2% over the three-year period).



**Figure 12**

The data presented in **Tables 3 through 6** depict the number and rate of juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II law violations by county, with the data in **Tables 3 and 4** presenting the number of arrests by county and the data presented in **Tables 5 and 6** presenting the rate of juvenile arrests by county (to allow for county-level comparisons). The data presented in **Table 5** suggests that Marshall County had the highest Part I juvenile arrest rate (43.52), followed by Jefferson (32.30), Madison (29.51), Christian (21.29), and Hopkins (20.91) counties. A number of counties had no juveniles arrested for Part I crimes in 2006. The data presented in **Table 6** indicate that Campbell county had the highest Part II juvenile arrest rate (126.57), followed by Marshall (95.87), Christian (90.08), Boone (78.48), and Madison (69.62) counties. Three counties (Hickman, Owsley, and Robertson) reported no juveniles arrested for Part II crimes in 2006.



**Table 3. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Part I Crimes by County (2006)**

<b>County Name</b>	<b>Total for Part I Crime</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>County Name</b>	<b>Total for Part I Crime</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>County Name</b>	<b>Total for Part I Crime</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Adair	4	67	Grant	11	35	McLean	8	44
Allen	0	105	Graves	58	13	Meade	8	44
Anderson	1	95	Grayson	2	85	Menifee	2	85
Ballard	12	32	Green	9	41	Mercer	7	48
Barren	6	54	Greenup	3	73	Metcalfe	6	54
Bath	3	73	Hancock	0	105	Monroe	1	95
Bell	12	32	Hardin	190	5	Montgomery	8	44
Boone	135	9	Harlan	21	20	Morgan	7	48
Bourbon	6	54	Harrison	4	67	Muhlenberg	5	61
Boyd	33	17	Hart	6	54	Nelson	13	28
Boyle	6	54	Henderson	2	85	Nicholas	1	95
Bracken	0	105	Henry	5	61	Ohio	7	48
Breathitt	10	37	Hickman	1	95	Oldham	13	28
Breckinridge	2	85	Hopkins	110	10	Owen	2	85
Bullitt	57	14	Jackson	0	105	Owsley	5	61
Butler	4	67	Jefferson	2,383	1	Pendleton	4	67
Caldwell	19	24	Jessamine	70	12	Perry	9	41
Calloway	20	22	Johnson	4	67	Pike	17	25
Campbell	193	4	Kenton	99	11	Powell	0	105
Carlisle	1	95	Knott	5	61	Pulaski	16	26
Carroll	7	48	Knox	10	37	Robertson	0	105
Carter	2	85	Larue	13	28	Rockcastle	0	105
Casey	2	85	Laurel	39	16	Rowan	10	37
Christian	156	6	Lawrence	1	95	Russell	3	73
Clark	5	61	Lee	3	73	Scott	2	85
Clay	20	22	Leslie	0	105	Shelby	21	20
Clinton	1	95	Letcher	3	73	Simpson	3	73
Crittenden	0	105	Lewis	2	85	Spencer	0	105
Cumberland	1	95	Lincoln	7	48	Taylor	11	35
Daviess	144	7	Livingston	0	105	Todd	3	73
Edmonson	7	48	Logan	6	54	Trigg	4	67
Elliott	3	73	Lyon	3	73	Trimble	0	105
Estill	8	44	Madison	195	3	Union	12	32
Fayette	366	2	Magoffin	3	73	Warren	22	19
Fleming	0	105	Marion	0	105	Washington	2	85
Floyd	9	41	Marshall	138	8	Wayne	3	73
Franklin	47	15	Martin	1	95	Webster	6	54
Fulton	14	27	Mason	23	18	Whitley	10	37
Gallatin	13	28	McCracken	5	61	Wolfe	1	95
Garrard	3	73	McCreary	0	105	Woodford	0	105

**Table 4. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Part II Crimes by County (2006)**

County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank
Adair	11	98	Grant	52	34	McLean	28	54
Allen	42	41	Graves	108	20	Meade	61	28
Anderson	13	90	Grayson	15	82	Menifee	16	76
Ballard	41	43	Green	55	32	Mercer	24	61
Barren	130	17	Greenup	30	50	Metcalfe	18	73
Bath	13	90	Hancock	3	114	Monroe	30	50
Bell	67	27	Hardin	686	4	Montgomery	33	46
Boone	836	3	Harlan	106	21	Morgan	22	68
Bourbon	60	29	Harrison	23	64	Muhlenberg	17	74
Boyd	120	19	Hart	9	106	Nelson	70	26
Boyle	36	45	Henderson	42	41	Nicholas	14	88
Bracken	6	109	Henry	33	46	Ohio	24	61
Breathitt	46	37	Hickman	0	118	Oldham	41	43
Breckinridge	6	109	Hopkins	290	11	Owen	23	64
Bullitt	164	13	Jackson	29	52	Owsley	0	118
Butler	17	74	Jefferson	4,635	1	Pendleton	23	64
Caldwell	52	34	Jessamine	156	15	Perry	52	34
Calloway	23	64	Johnson	24	61	Pike	137	16
Campbell	1,313	2	Kenton	645	6	Powell	10	103
Carlisle	2	115	Knott	14	88	Pulaski	128	18
Carroll	55	32	Knox	15	82	Robertson	0	118
Carter	13	90	Larue	72	25	Rockcastle	5	111
Casey	20	72	Laurel	164	14	Rowan	44	38
Christian	660	5	Lawrence	2	115	Russell	15	82
Clark	29	52	Lee	13	90	Scott	15	82
Clay	27	57	Leslie	25	60	Shelby	103	22
Clinton	16	76	Letcher	10	103	Simpson	12	95
Crittenden	4	113	Lewis	11	98	Spencer	9	106
Cumberland	15	82	Lincoln	10	103	Taylor	74	24
Daviess	643	7	Livingston	16	76	Todd	11	98
Edmonson	22	68	Logan	21	71	Trigg	28	54
Elliott	12	95	Lyon	31	48	Trimble	11	98
Estill	8	108	Madison	460	9	Union	28	54
Fayette	540	8	Magoffin	12	95	Warren	58	30
Fleming	5	111	Marion	13	90	Washington	16	76
Floyd	31	48	Marshall	304	10	Wayne	11	98
Franklin	242	12	Martin	16	76	Webster	22	68
Fulton	44	38	Mason	85	23	Whitley	56	31
Gallatin	27	57	McCracken	44	38	Wolfe	16	76
Garrard	27	57	McCreary	15	82	Woodford	2	115

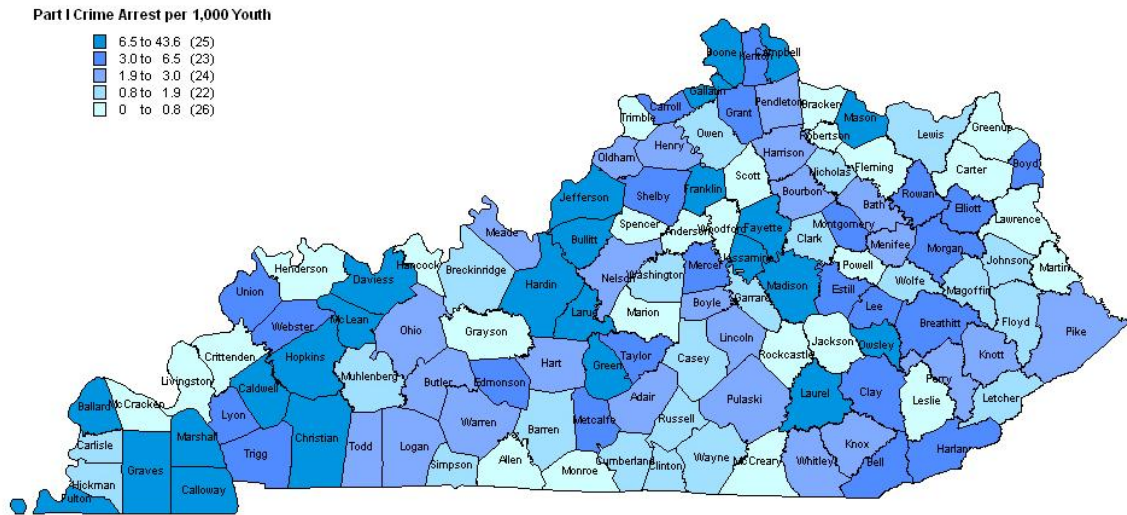
**Table 5. Rate of Juvenile Arrests for Part I Crimes by County (2006) per 1,000 10-17 population**

County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank
Adair	2.11	68	Grant	3.94	41	McLean	7.21	22
Allen	0.00	105	Graves	13.96	11	Meade	2.39	62
Anderson	0.46	103	Grayson	0.75	96	Menifee	2.42	61
Ballard	13.29	14	Green	6.99	23	Mercer	3.18	47
Barren	1.44	84	Greenup	0.73	97	Metcalfe	5.42	32
Bath	2.53	58	Hancock	0.00	118	Monroe	0.79	95
Bell	3.41	44	Hardin	15.61	8	Montgomery	3.23	46
Boone	12.67	16	Harlan	5.30	34	Morgan	4.67	39
Bourbon	2.69	53	Harrison	1.92	72	Muhlenberg	1.48	83
Boyd	6.40	27	Hart	2.87	50	Nelson	2.79	51
Boyle	2.09	70	Henderson	0.39	104	Nicholas	1.35	85
Bracken	0.00	114	Henry	2.89	49	Ohio	2.56	57
Breathitt	4.97	37	Hickman	1.78	75	Oldham	2.17	66
Breckinridge	0.90	94	Hopkins	20.91	5	Owen	1.55	80
Bullitt	7.71	21	Jackson	0.00	106	Owsley	8.46	19
Butler	2.49	59	Jefferson	32.30	2	Pendleton	2.10	69
Caldwell	13.72	12	Jessamine	15.63	7	Perry	2.63	54
Calloway	6.63	24	Johnson	1.49	81	Pike	2.23	65
Campbell	18.60	6	Kenton	5.63	30	Powell	0.00	112
Carlisle	1.67	78	Knott	2.43	60	Pulaski	2.57	55
Carroll	6.00	28	Knox	2.70	52	Robertson	0.00	120
Carter	0.68	99	Larue	8.08	20	Rockcastle	0.00	116
Casey	1.13	91	Laurel	6.55	25	Rowan	5.13	35
Christian	21.29	4	Lawrence	0.52	102	Russell	1.71	77
Clark	1.33	86	Lee	3.30	45	Scott	0.55	101
Clay	6.48	26	Leslie	0.00	107	Shelby	5.54	31
Clinton	1.03	92	Letcher	1.03	93	Simpson	1.59	79
Crittenden	0.00	117	Lewis	1.21	89	Spencer	0.00	113
Cumberland	1.22	88	Lincoln	2.56	56	Taylor	4.37	40
Daviess	13.01	15	Livingston	0.00	108	Todd	2.15	67
Edmonson	5.35	33	Logan	1.94	71	Trigg	3.02	48
Elliott	3.72	43	Lyon	5.02	36	Trimble	0.00	111
Estill	4.73	38	Madison	29.51	3	Union	5.94	29
Fayette	15.46	9	Magoffin	1.77	76	Warren	2.32	64
Fleming	0.00	115	Marion	0.00	110	Washington	1.48	82
Floyd	1.86	73	Marshall	43.52	1	Wayne	1.26	87
Franklin	9.65	18	Martin	0.60	100	Webster	3.79	42
Fulton	15.22	10	Mason	12.14	17	Whitley	2.33	63
Gallatin	13.31	13	McCracken	0.72	98	Wolfe	1.15	90
Garrard	1.81	74	McCreary	0.00	109	Woodford	0.00	119

**Table 6. Rate of Juvenile Arrests for Part II Crimes by County (2006)  
per 1,000 10-17 population**

County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank
Adair	5.80	99	Grant	18.62	43	McLean	25.25	29
Allen	19.81	38	Graves	25.99	28	Meade	18.19	46
Anderson	6.02	97	Grayson	5.61	100	Menifee	19.35	39
Ballard	45.40	14	Green	42.70	17	Mercer	10.90	72
Barren	31.22	21	Greenup	7.28	83	Metcalfe	16.25	54
Bath	10.97	71	Hancock	3.01	113	Monroe	23.73	30
Bell	19.01	41	Hardin	56.35	8	Montgomery	13.33	63
Boone	78.48	4	Harlan	26.77	27	Morgan	14.67	59
Bourbon	26.86	26	Harrison	11.02	70	Muhlenberg	5.03	101
Boyd	23.26	31	Hart	4.31	105	Nelson	15.04	57
Boyle	12.56	65	Henderson	8.13	79	Nicholas	18.87	42
Bracken	6.06	96	Henry	19.10	40	Ohio	8.78	76
Breathitt	22.87	32	Hickman	0.00	119	Oldham	6.83	85
Breckinridge	2.69	114	Hopkins	55.13	9	Owen	17.86	48
Bullitt	22.18	35	Jackson	17.62	49	Owsley	0.00	118
Butler	10.57	73	Jefferson	62.83	6	Pendleton	12.08	66
Caldwell	37.55	18	Jessamine	34.84	20	Perry	15.17	56
Calloway	7.63	82	Johnson	8.93	75	Pike	18.00	47
Campbell	126.57	1	Kenton	36.66	19	Powell	5.95	98
Carlisle	3.33	111	Knott	6.80	86	Pulaski	20.56	37
Carroll	47.17	13	Knox	4.04	107	Robertson	0.00	120
Carter	4.43	104	Larue	44.75	16	Rockcastle	2.61	115
Casey	11.34	68	Laurel	27.55	24	Rowan	22.55	34
Christian	90.08	3	Lawrence	1.04	116	Russell	8.57	78
Clark	7.73	81	Lee	14.29	60	Scott	4.15	106
Clay	8.75	77	Leslie	16.81	51	Shelby	27.16	25
Clinton	16.44	52	Letcher	3.43	110	Simpson	6.35	92
Crittenden	3.75	108	Lewis	6.65	88	Spencer	6.54	90
Cumberland	18.23	45	Lincoln	3.66	109	Taylor	29.41	22
Daviess	58.07	7	Livingston	15.18	55	Todd	7.89	80
Edmonson	16.82	50	Logan	6.80	87	Trigg	21.15	36
Elliott	14.87	58	Lyon	51.84	10	Trimble	11.17	69
Estill	4.73	102	Madison	69.62	5	Union	13.85	62
Fayette	22.81	33	Magoffin	7.08	84	Warren	6.11	95
Fleming	3.15	112	Marion	6.26	94	Washington	11.86	67
Floyd	6.41	91	Marshall	95.87	2	Wayne	4.62	103
Franklin	49.69	11	Martin	9.62	74	Webster	13.90	61
Fulton	47.83	12	Mason	44.88	15	Whitley	13.07	64
Gallatin	27.64	23	McCracken	6.33	93	Wolfe	18.33	44
Garrard	16.31	53	McCreary	6.56	89	Woodford	0.71	117

### Rate of Part I Crime Juvenile Arrest (per 1000 10-17 Population) - 2006

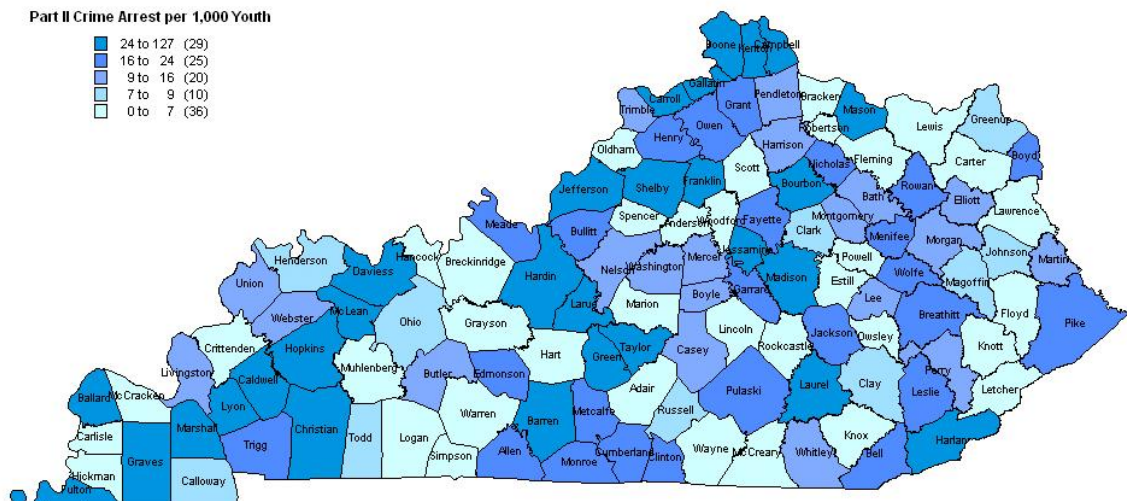


Source: Kentucky Crime Facts: KSP

Figure 13

The data presented in the maps in **Figures 13** and **14** reflect the rate of juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II crimes by county for 2006. With the exception of slightly higher rates for both Part I and Part II juvenile arrests in the extreme northern counties of Kentucky, there is little regional patterns in juvenile arrest rates for Part I or Part II crimes.

### Rate of Part II Crime Juvenile Arrest (per 1000 10-17 Population) - 2006



Source: Kentucky Crime Facts: KSP

Figure 14

### School-Based Part I Law Violations

Source: Kentucky Center for School Safety

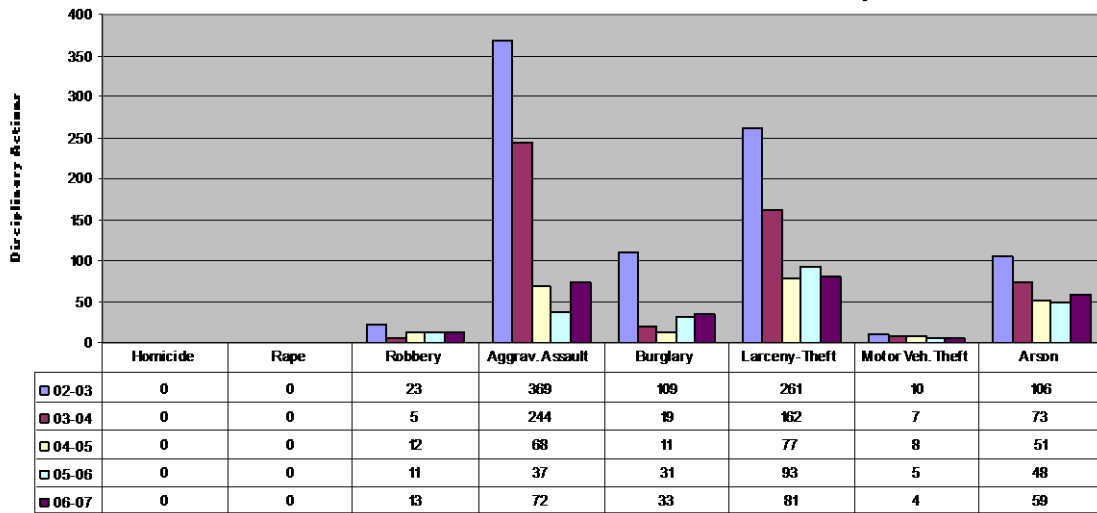


Figure 15

The results presented in **Figures 15** and **16** depict data obtained from the Kentucky Center for School Safety. The data presented in **Figure 15** depict five-year trends in the number of Part I law violations that occurred on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event while the results presented in **Figure 16** illustrate the five-year trend in Part II law violations at school. These data present a different picture from earlier trend data, in that there was a reduction in practically all of the Part I and Part II violations over the five-year period. As such, while arrests for juvenile crimes appear to be increasing in Kentucky, these law violations are generally occurring outside of school property and school events.

### School-Based Part II Law Violations

Source: Kentucky Center for School Safety

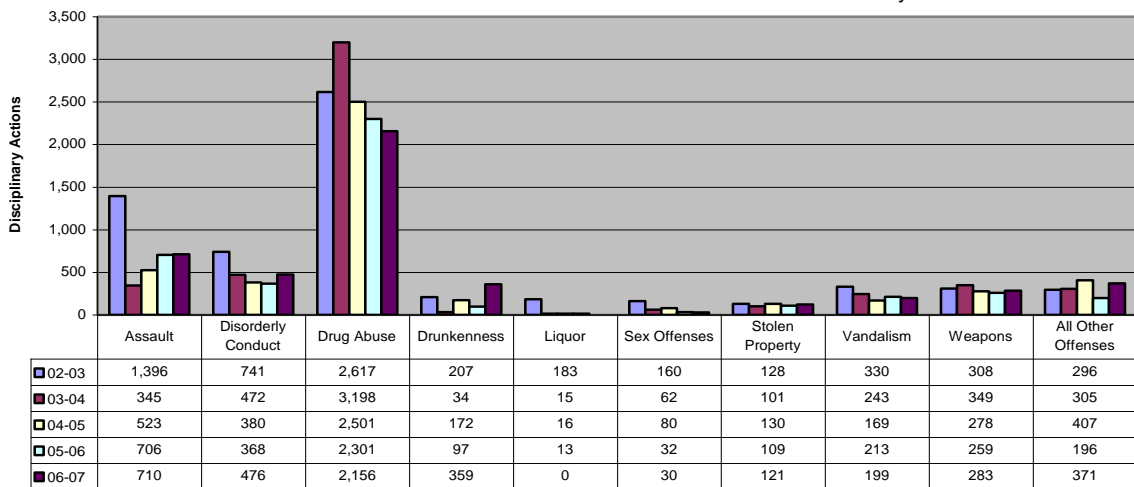


Figure 16a

### School-Based Part II Law Violations (cont.)

Source: Kentucky Center for School Safety

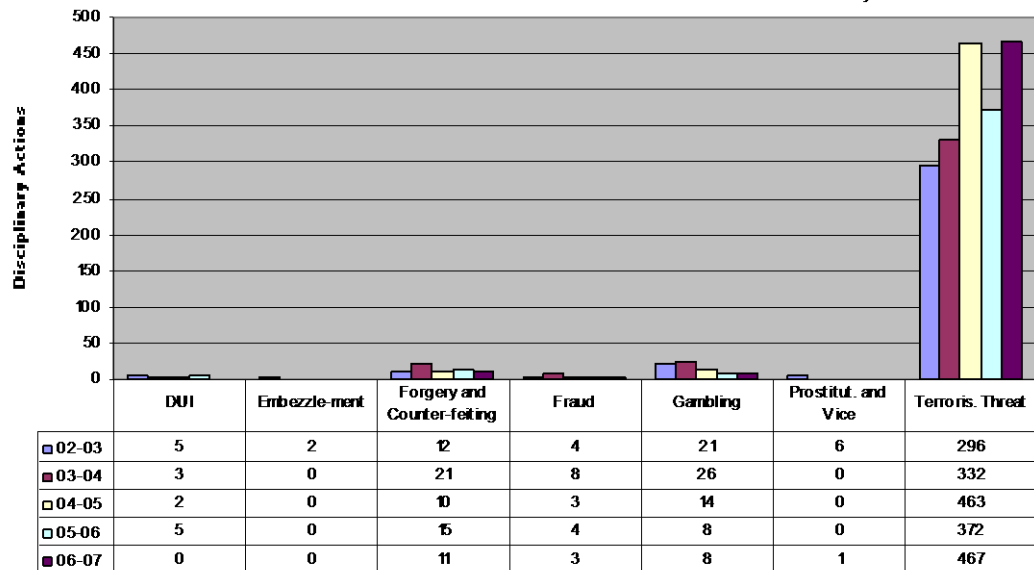


Figure 16b

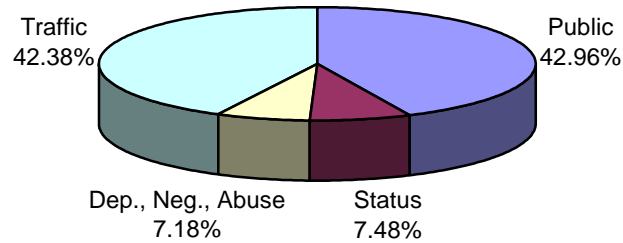
### Administrative Office of the Courts Data

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides the most comprehensive data base for understanding juvenile offenses in Kentucky. AOC data on all charges involving individuals under the age of 18 (at the time of the charge) for calendar year 2006 were provided to help in the compilation of the following charts. When possible, we combined the 2006 data with the data from the 2006 report to provide five-year trend data.

During the five-year period, AOC recorded 395,047 charges involving juveniles. These charges were based on 224,762 cases (or incidents). For example, during this period, one juvenile could be involved in more than one case (incident) during which there was law enforcement involvement. Each “case” could involve multiple charges; for example, a motor vehicle violation coupled with a drug possession charge.

Of the over 395,047 charges, slightly more than two in five involved delinquent (public) or status offenses (42.38%) or traffic offenses (42.96%). Over seven percent (7.18%) of the charges involved juveniles as the subject of abuse, neglect and dependency actions. These actions are listed in the database as UJC (unified juvenile code); and, typically, the involved youth are considered victims rather than offenders (**Figure 17**).

**AOC Charges by Type (2002 - 2006)**

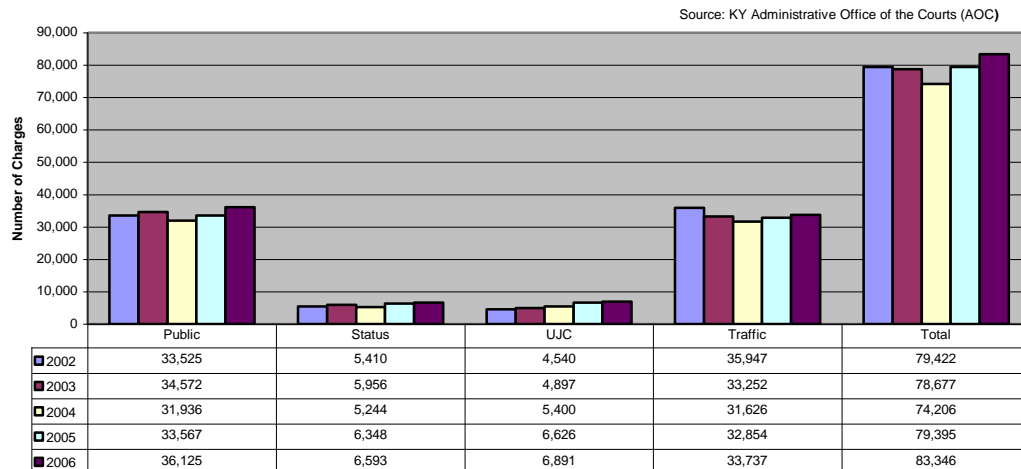


Source: KY Administrative Office of the Court (AOC)

**Figure 17**

The following chart (**Figure 18**) disaggregates the number of charges within each of the four categories by year. Although the total number of charges and the number of charges for public offenses remained relatively stable over the five-year period, there was some fluctuation within categories, as the number of status offenses increased by 21.9% over the five-year period while the number JUC charges increased 51.8% over the same period. Both the number of charges for public offenses and traffic offenses remained relatively stable over the five-year period, with public offenses increasing slightly (7.8%) and traffic offenses decreasing slightly (6.1%).

**Juvenile Crime (2002-2006)**  
(Reflecting 395,047 Charges within 224,762 Cases for Youth)



**Figure 18**



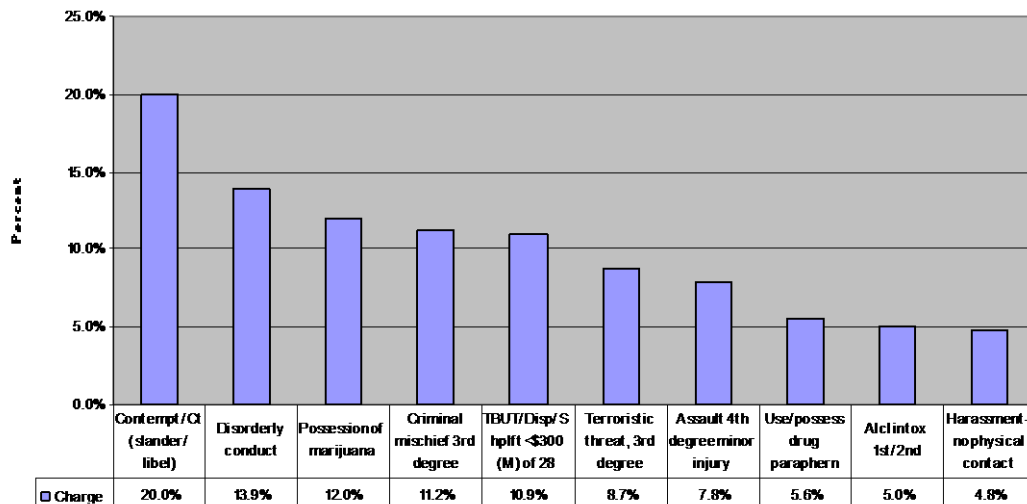
## Public/Delinquent Offenses

In this subsection, four graphs provide information about the top ten delinquent charges. In the first figure (**Figure 19**), data on the top ten offenses for the five-year period are presented (using percentages). During the five-year period, a larger proportion of youth were charged with contempt of court (slander/libel) than any other charge (20.0% of top 10 charges). Disorderly conduct (13.9%), possession of marijuana (12.0%), and Theft by Unlawful Taking of items less than \$300 (10.9%) were the next most common charges. Three of the top ten charges received over the five-year period involved alcohol and other drugs; possession of marijuana (12.0%), use or possession of drug paraphernalia (5.6%), and alcohol intoxication 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> offense (5.0%).

**Delinquent Offense:** an offense which, if committed by an adult, would be a crime  
**Status Offense:** any action brought in the interest of a child who is accused of committing acts, which if committed by an adult, would not be a crime. Status offenses include being “beyond the control of parents”, “beyond the control of school”, a “habitual runaway,” a “habitual truant,” and tobacco purchase by a minor (first and second offense).

**Top Ten Public (Delinquent) Charges (2002-2006)**

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)



**Figure 19**

**Figure 20** then indicates the top ten juvenile charges by year and by number (rather than percent). The most significant increase during the five-year period is for contempt of court charges.

### Top Ten Juvenile Charges by Year

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

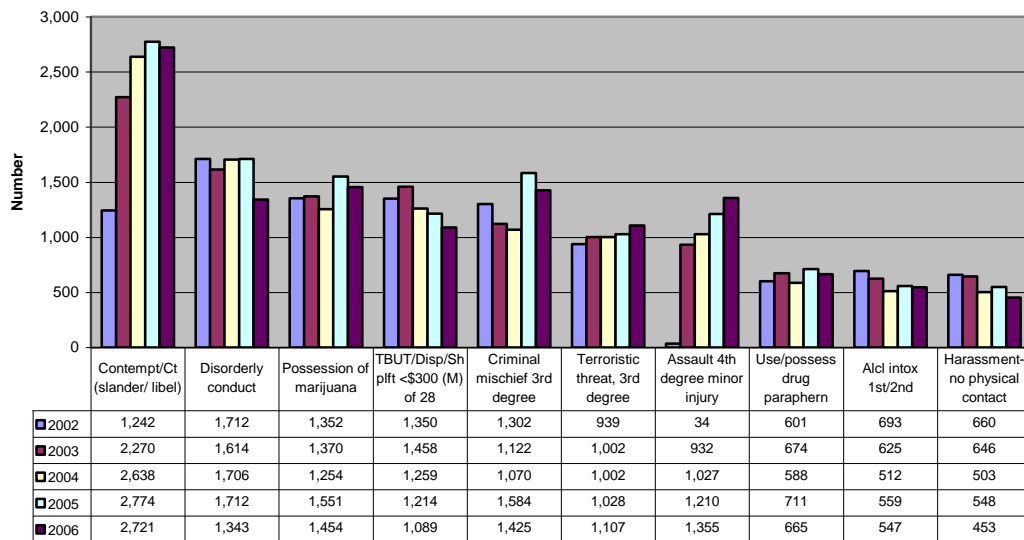


Figure 20

**Figure 21** illustrates the top ten juvenile delinquent charges by gender. In every category, fewer females than males were charged for the offense under consideration; however, the discrepancies between gender are less pronounced in charges for contempt of court (34.1% female), theft by unlawful taking (44.0% female), harassment/no physical contact (42.3% female), and Assault 4<sup>th</sup> degree-minor injury (37.6% female).

### Top Ten Juvenile Delinquent Charges by Gender (2002-2006)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

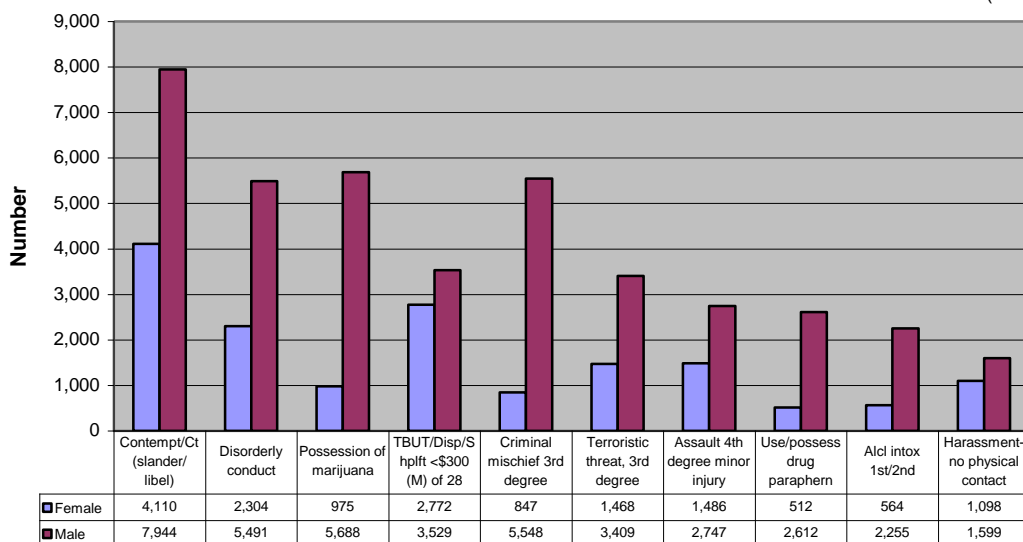
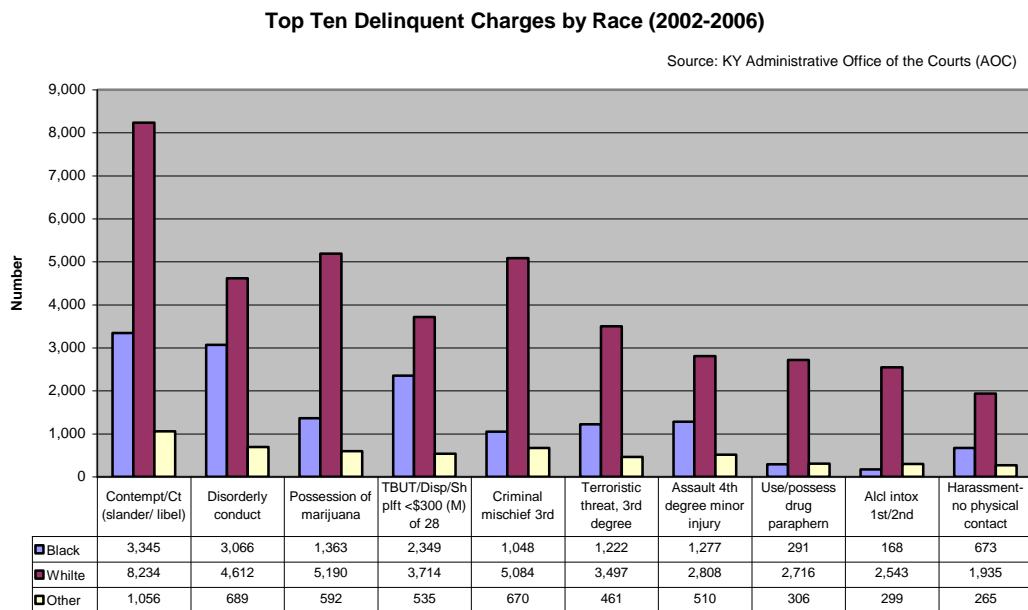


Figure 21

The top ten delinquent charges are presented by racial category in **Figure 22**. The overall population in Kentucky is 90.1 white, 7.3% black/African American, 0.2% American Indian, 0.7% Asian, 0.6% other, and 1.1% two or more races. African American youth are most likely to receive a disproportionate number of charges for contempt of court (26.5% African American), disorderly conduct (36.6% African American), and theft by unlawful taking (35.6% African American). For the charges of use/possession of drug paraphernalia and alcohol intoxication 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> offense, the numbers of African American youth are consistent with their numbers in the overall population (8.8% for drug use/possession and 5.6% for alcohol intoxication).



**Figure 22**

The information presented in Figures 23 and 24 reflect data on the three most common status charges from the Administrative Office of the Court's database. The number of charges for these offenses is presented by gender in **Figure 23**. Males are much more likely to be charged with beyond control, while females are more likely charged with being a runaway. The proportion of males to females within each of the offense categories remains fairly stable through the five-year period.

### Status Charges by Gender (2002-2006)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

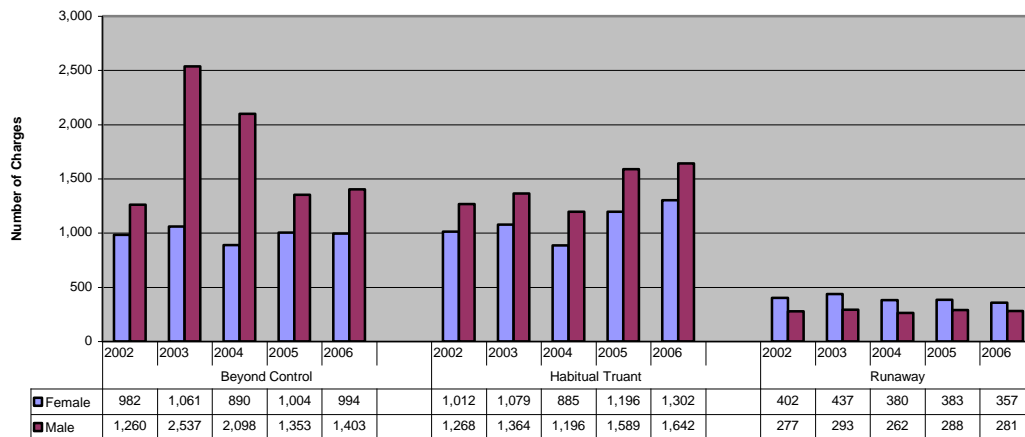


Figure 23

In **Figure 24**, status charges are displayed by race for calendar years 2002-2006. For each of the three offense categories in 2006, the proportion of charges for black youth is two to three times the number of black youth in the overall population (7.3%). Black youth were involved with 20.2% of the charges for beyond control, 14.2 % of the charges for habitual truancy, and 20.9% of the runaway charges.

### Status Charges by Race (2002-2006)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

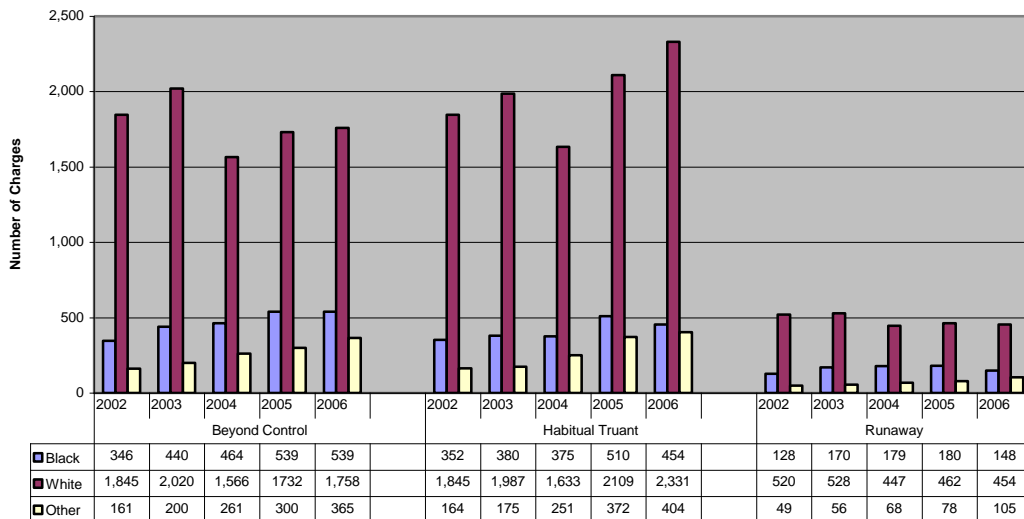


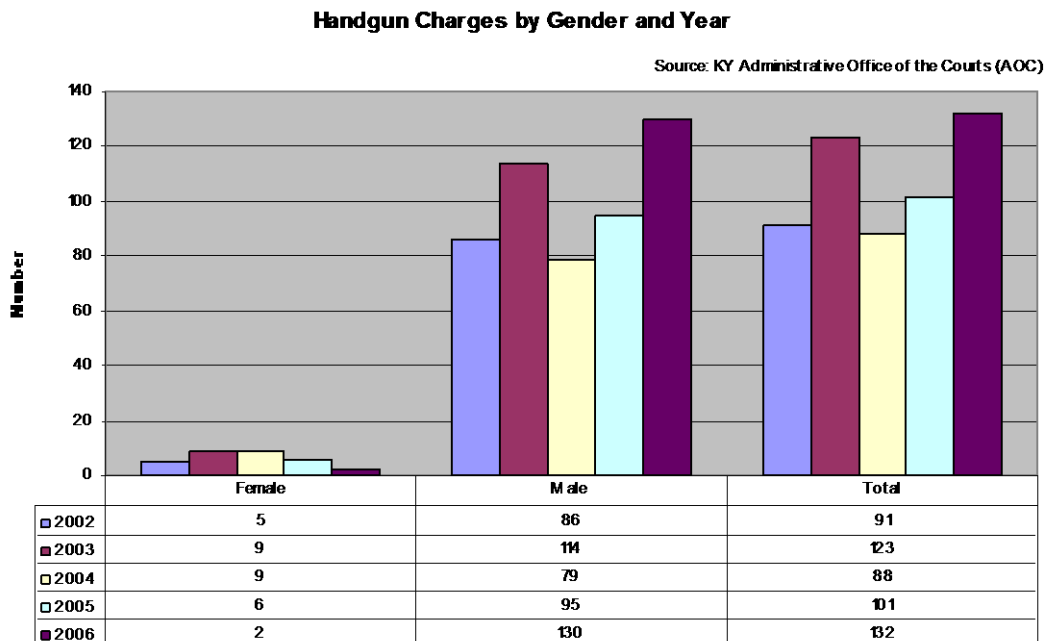
Figure 24

## Charges involving Handguns

Next, we analyzed the specific charges associated with the use or possession of a handgun during the commission of an offense. To be included in this analysis, the charge had to specifically mention the word *handgun*; it does not include charges involving other types of firearms or weapons. Of the over 169,725 charges involving delinquent offenses in the five-year period, only 558 involved the possession or use of a handgun.

*In accordance with Kentucky Revised Statute 635.020 (4) ... if the District Court finds probable cause to believe that a child committed a felony, that a firearm was used in the commission of that felony, and that the child was fourteen (14) years of age or older at the time of the commission of the alleged felony, then the child shall be transferred to the Circuit Court for trial*

During the five-year period, the number of handgun charges fluctuated yearly, but the number of handgun charges in 2006 was 20.8% higher than the number for 2005 and 45% higher than the number of handgun charges in 2002, the beginning of the five-year period. As can be seen in the graphs below, males were much more likely to be charged with an offense involving a handgun than females (**Figure 25**). Also, black youth were more likely to be charged with a handgun offense than white youth or youth of other races. Approximately three in five (59.5%) of the handgun charges during the five-year period involved black youth (**Figure 26**).



**Figure 25**

### Juvenile Handgun Charges by Race and Year

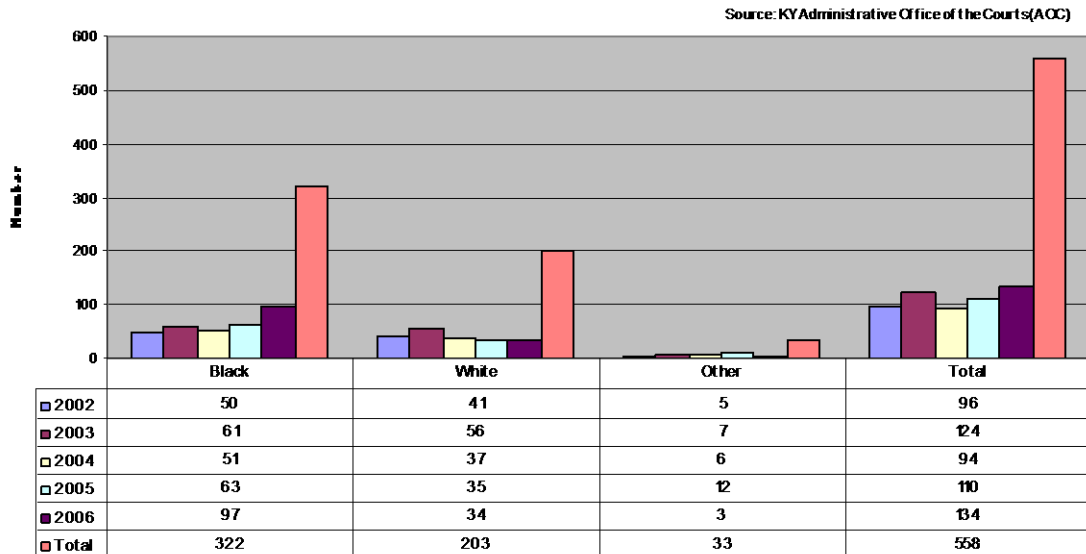
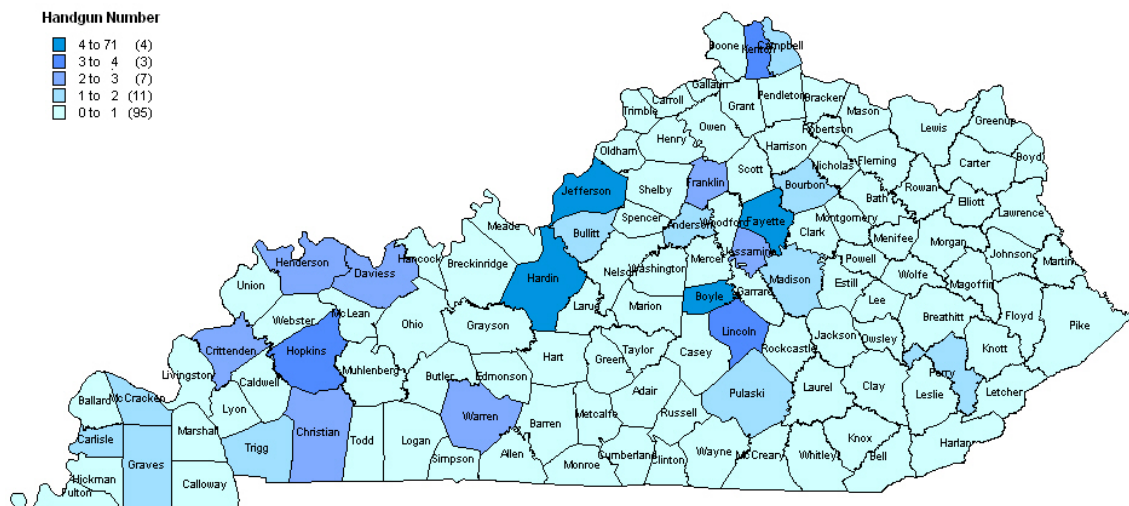


Figure 26

The map presented in **Figure 26** depicts the number of handgun charges by county for 2006. As with most of the other charge data, the most populous counties also had the greatest number of charges. Approximately four in five counties (79.2%) had no youth charged with a handgun violation in 2006.

### Number of Handgun Charges - 2006



Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts

Figure 27

#### **IV. Processing and Disposing of Juvenile Offenses**

The Administrative Office of the Court's database tracks each charge through its disposition. To provide some perspective, during the five-year period, AOC recorded 395,047 charges involving juveniles. These charges were based on 224,762 cases (or incidents). Their data system has over 40 dispositional categories, including "pending". The following charts and tables present information about these charges.

##### **Diversion**

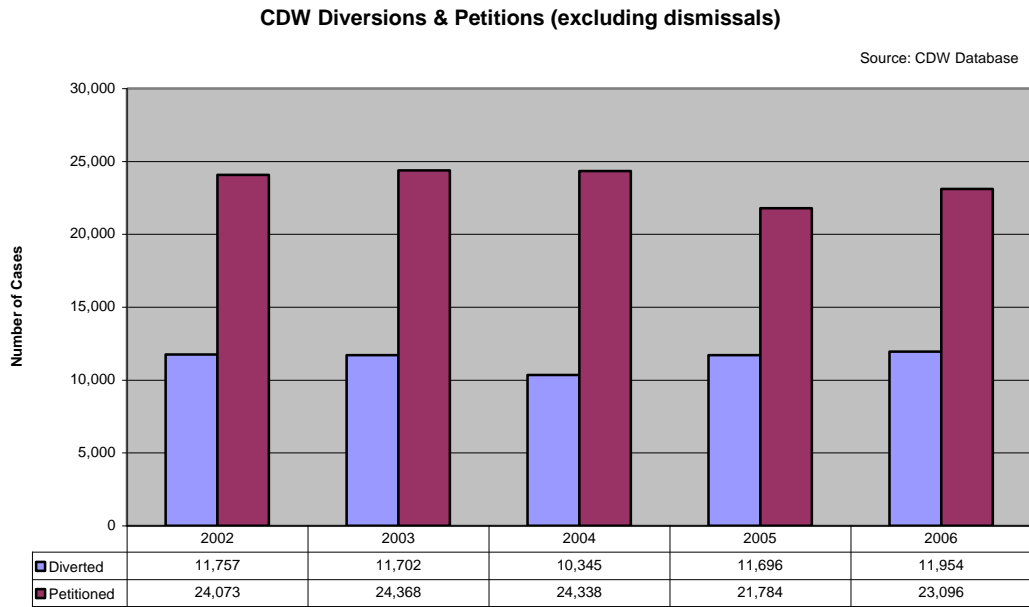
As reported in the previous reports (May & Chen, 2006; R.E.A.C.H., 2005), many youth are successfully diverted through Kentucky's system of court designated workers (CDW). Youth charged with a delinquent or status offense are subject to the assistance of a court designated worker. Each of the 59 judicial districts has the services of a CDW, who is delegated by the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purpose of placing children in alternative placements prior to arraignment, conducting preliminary investigations, and formulating, entering into, and supervision diversion agreements. KRS. 020 defines "Diversion Agreement" as:...an agreement entered into between a court-designated worker and a child charged with the commission of offenses set forth in KRS Chapters 630 and 635, the purpose of which is to serve the best interest of the child and to provide redress for those offenses without court action and without the creation of a formal court record.

Uniform criteria determine which juvenile complaints must be forwarded to formal court and which are eligible for informal processing with the CDW program. More serious offenses and repeat offenders are referred to formal court. Juveniles involved in minor offenses are generally eligible for informal processing and enter diversion agreements (R.E.A.C.H., 2005).

The ultimate goals of the diversion process are accountability, education, and deterrence from further involvement in the juvenile justice system. Diversion agreements are monitored by the CDW to make sure that the juvenile complies with the conditions of the diversion agreement.

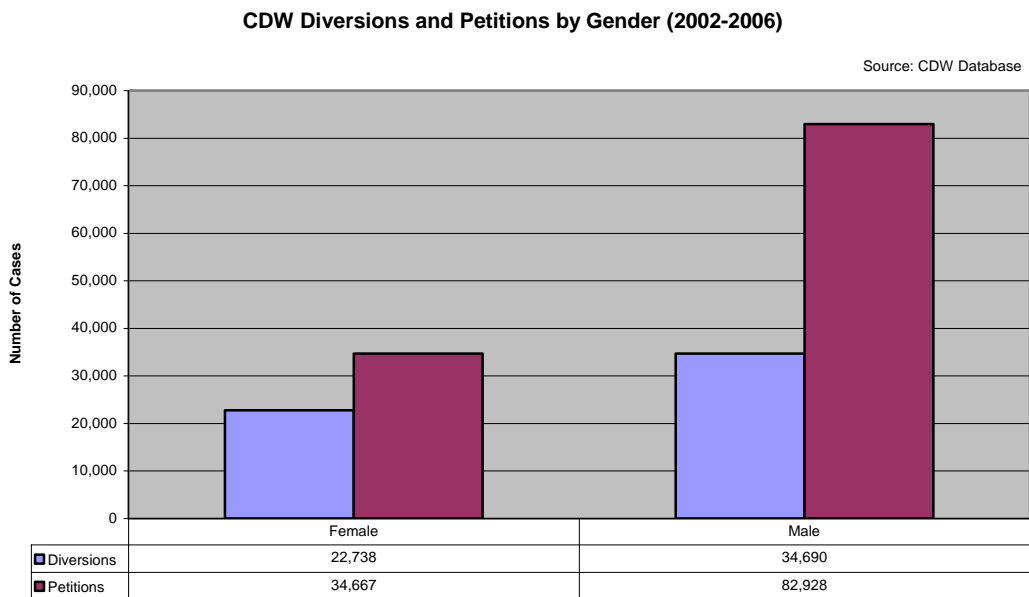
The next four graphs (**Figures 28 to 31**) illustrate the results of efforts by court designated workers, showing the number of cases that resulted in diversions versus petitions to the court by year, by gender, by age and by race.

The results presented in **Figure 28** suggest that over the five-year period, almost one-third of the cases handled by CDWs are successfully diverted from the juvenile court system.



**Figure 28**

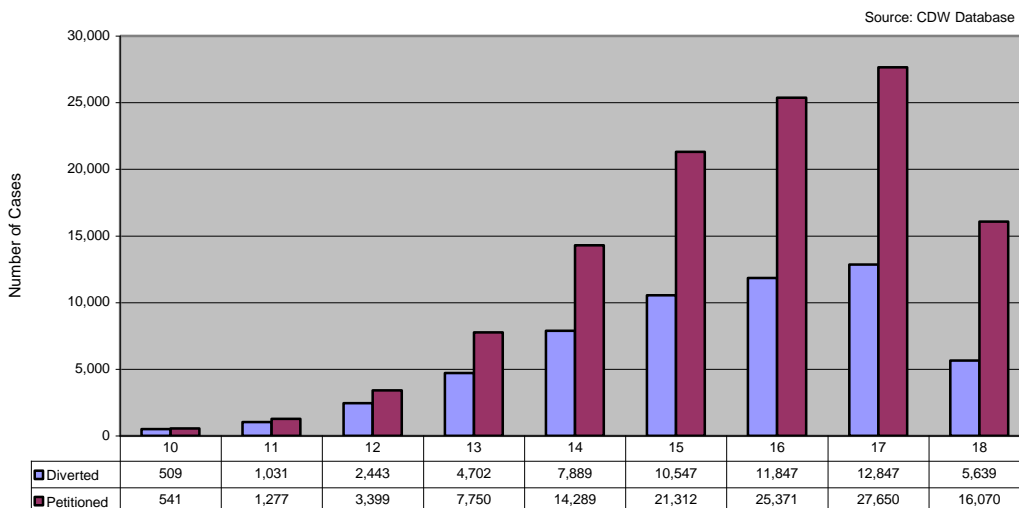
The results presented in **Figure 29** depict that females are more likely to be diverted than males (39.6% of all females charged are diverted compared to 29.5% for males).



**Figure 29**



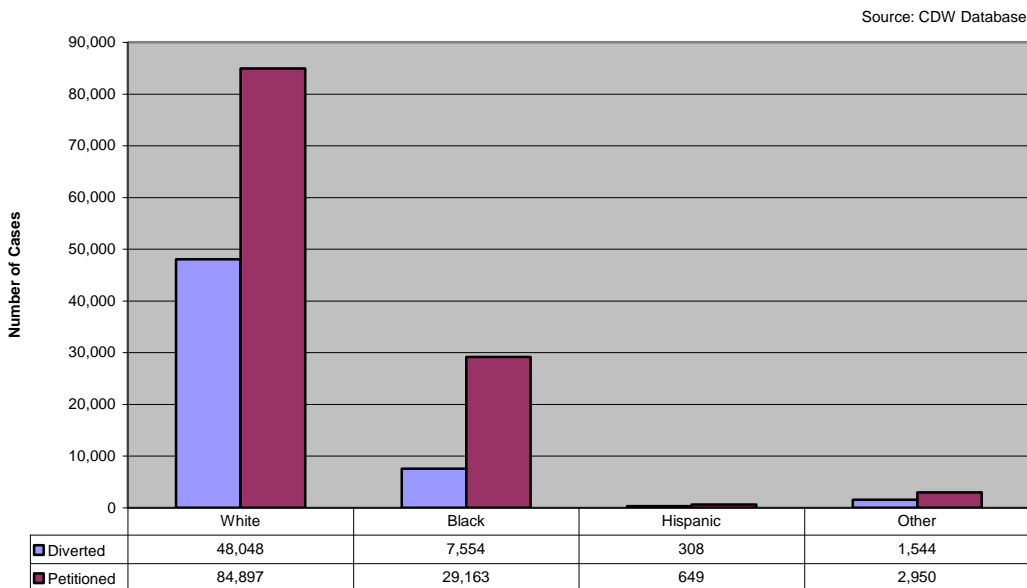
**CDW Diversions and Petitions by Age (2002-2006)**



**Figure 30**

The data presented in **Figure 30** suggest that younger children are, proportionately, more likely to be diverted than older youth.

**CDW Diversions and Petitions by Race (2002-2006)**

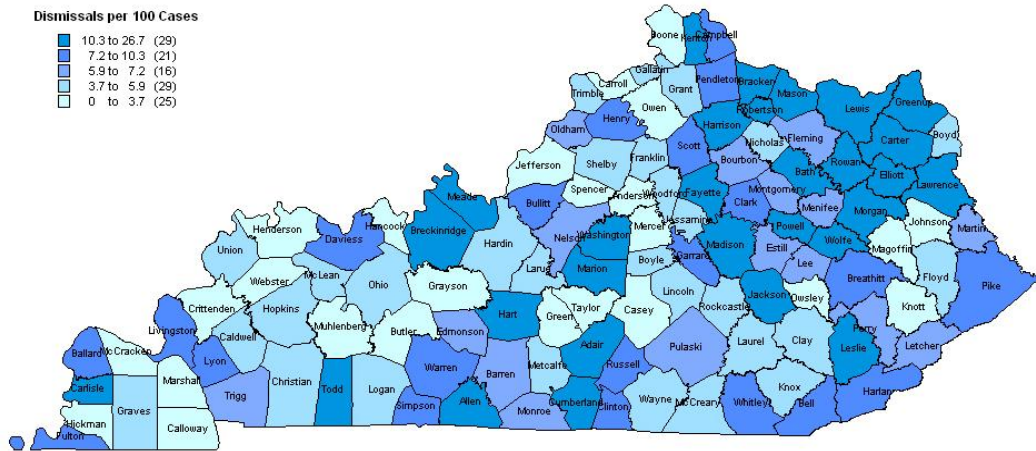


**Figure 31**

The data presented in **Figure 31** suggest that white youth are, proportionately, more likely to be diverted than black youth (36.1% for white youth versus 20.6% for black youth).

**Figures 32 and 33** present dismissals and diversion by county, based on CDW data from the Administrative Office of the Courts. The percent of dismissals was calculated by the number of dismissals divided by total cases. The percent of successful diversions was calculated by the number of diversions divided by diversions plus petitions.

**Percent of Dismissals by County (2006)**  
(Number of dismissals/total Cases)

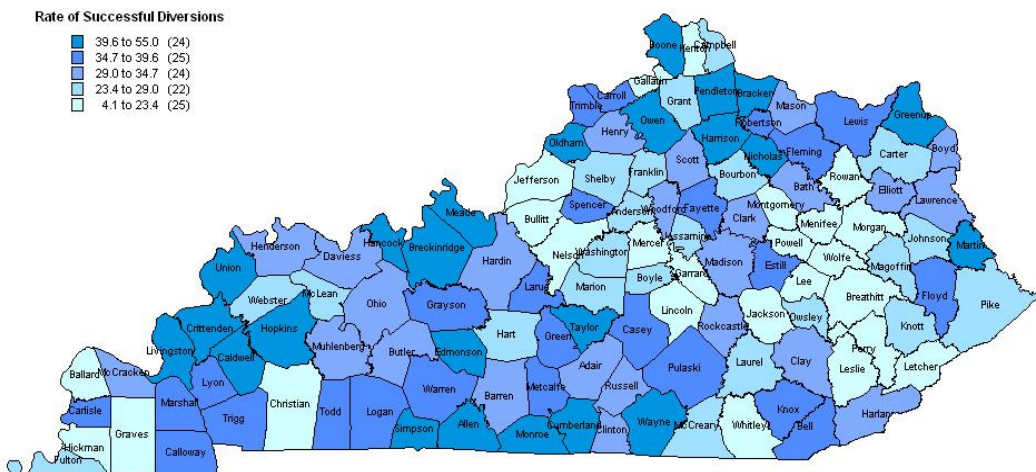


**Figure 32**

Source: CDW database

The counties with the highest rate of dismissal appear to be in the northern and eastern parts of the Commonwealth while there are higher rates of successful diversion among many of the counties in the western half of the Commonwealth.

**Percent of Successful Diversions by County (2006)**  
(Number of diversions/sum of diversions and petitions)



Source: CDW database

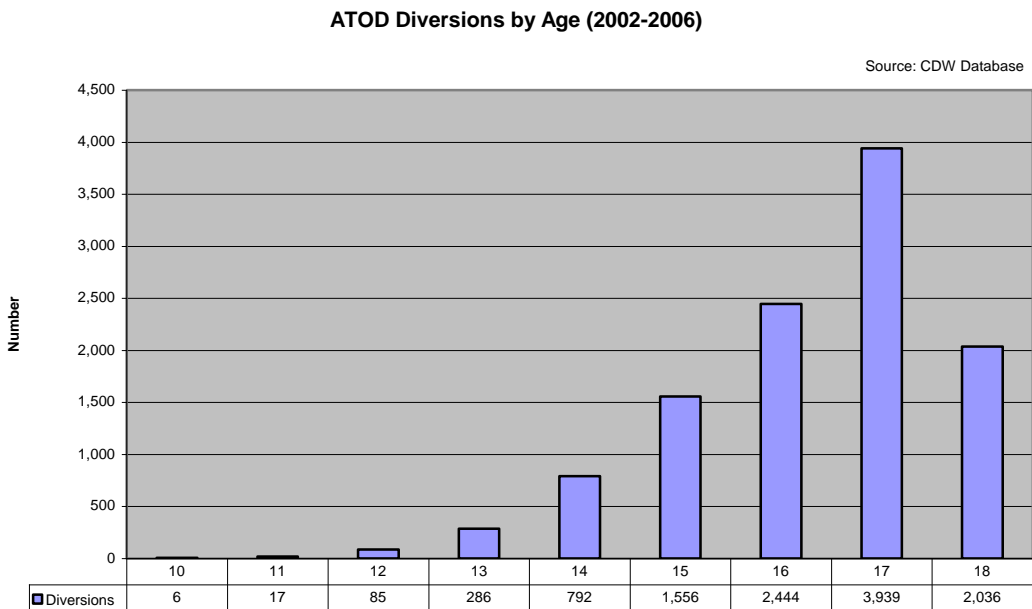
**Figure 33**

**Table 7. Successful CDW Diversions by Top 40 Offense Categories**

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Charge</b>		<b>Successful Diversions</b>		<b>%</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2002-06</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2002-06</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2002-06</b>
HABITUAL TRUANT(STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUV CODE)	5751	24,630	1708	7,926	29.7%	32.2%
BEYOND CONTROL(STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUVENILE)	3725	19,019	786	4,506	21.1%	23.7%
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-SHOPLIFTING - UNDER \$300	2678	16,216	1470	8,964	54.9%	55.3%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1538	11,920	387	3,203	25.2%	26.9%
POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA	2301	10,974	703	3,447	30.6%	31.4%
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF-3RD DEGREE	1495	8,613	386	2,277	25.8%	26.4%
TERRORISTIC THREATENING, 3RD DEGREE	1326	7,069	250	1,440	18.9%	20.4%
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE MINOR INJURY	1984	6,771	570	2,013	28.7%	29.7%
USE/POSSESS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, 1ST OFFENSE	1071	5,078	328	1,537	30.6%	30.3%
ALCOHOL INTOXICATION IN A PUBLIC PLACE-1ST & 2ND O	946	4,963	301	1,659	31.8%	33.4%
HARASSMENT - NO PHYSICAL CONTACT	737	4,856	199	1,341	27.0%	27.6%
RUNAWAY (STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUVENILE CODE)	921	4,722	59	402	6.4%	8.5%
CRIMINAL TRESPASSING-3RD DEGREE	1009	4,681	269	1,347	26.7%	28.8%
POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY A MINOR	854	4,628	419	2,252	49.1%	48.7%
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MINOR INJURY	768	3,841	83	843	10.8%	21.9%
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-ALL OTHERS-UNDER \$300	534	3,270	137	860	25.7%	26.3%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY OVER \$300	679	2,710	41	207	6.0%	7.6%
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF-2ND DEGREE	583	2,679	113	538	19.4%	20.1%
PUBLIC INTOXICATION CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (EXCLUDES	599	2,664	160	801	26.7%	30.1%
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE NO VISIBLE INJURY	619	2,634	184	823	29.7%	31.2%
RESISTING ARREST	487	2,314	45	273	9.2%	11.8%
ABUSE OF TEACHER, PROHIBITED	583	2,283	72	361	12.3%	15.8%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY UNDER \$300	427	2,245	119	636	27.9%	28.3%
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-ALL OTHERS - OVER \$300	372	2,141	45	246	12.1%	11.5%
BURGLARY, 3RD DEGREE	651	2,008	75	236	11.5%	11.8%
BURGLARY, 2ND DEGREE	510	1,921	46	175	9.0%	9.1%
MENACING	351	1,871	56	320	16.0%	17.1%
WANTON ENDANGERMENT-1ST DEGREE	399	1,856	26	161	6.5%	8.7%
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NO VISIBLE INJURY	338	1,848	34	189	10.1%	10.2%
TERRORISTIC THREATENING, 2ND DEGREE	405	1,807	71	348	17.5%	19.3%
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF, 1ST DEGREE	483	1,758	87	243	18.0%	13.8%
HARASSMENT (PHYSICAL CONTACT) NO INJURY	441	1,749	142	578	32.2%	33.0%
HARASSING COMMUNICATIONS	373	1,631	121	515	32.4%	31.6%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT-4TH DEGREE	118	1,487	25	383	21.2%	25.8%
CRIMINAL TRESPASS-2ND DEGREE	304	1,479	81	392	26.6%	26.5%
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-AUTO - OVER \$300	255	1,348	9	29	3.5%	2.2%
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE - CHILD ABUSE	97	1,315	32	266	33.0%	20.2%
BURGLARY-3RD DEGREE-NONE OF THE ABOVE	62	1,268	19	176	30.6%	13.9%
ASSAULT SIMPLE PHYSICAL CONTACT	25	1,202	7	369	28.0%	30.7%
BURGLARY-2ND DEGREE-FORCED ENTRY-RESIDENCE	67	1,051	6	108	9.0%	10.3%

Successful diversions by the top offense categories are presented in **Table 7** for both the five-year period under study and for 2006. Data are sorted by the offense categories that are most prevalent. The offenses with the highest rate of successful diversion are highlighted. In approximately 55% of the cases (for 2006 and for the five-year period), youth charged with theft by unlawful taking/shoplifting were successfully diverted.

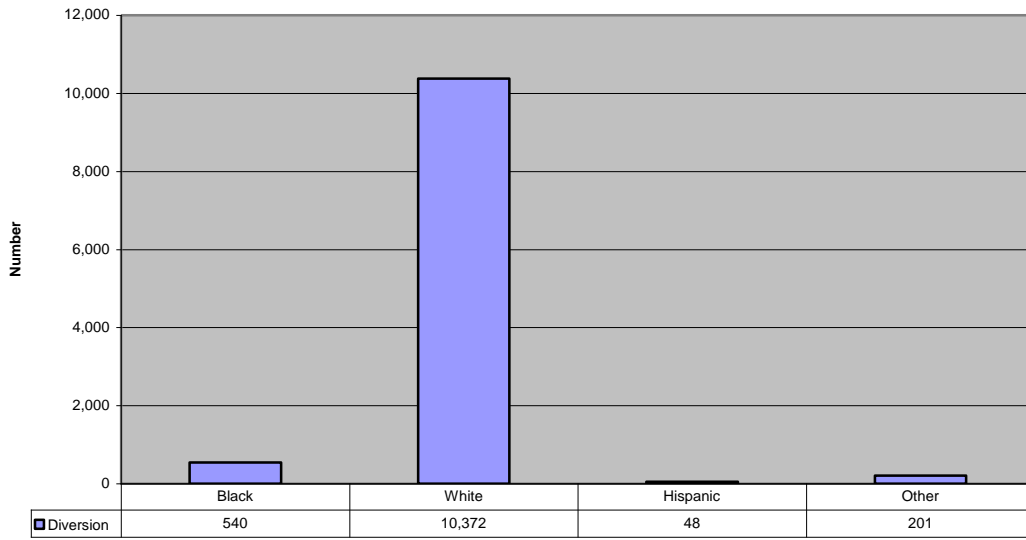
In an effort to more closely examine diversions involving youth charged with Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug (ATOD) offenses, we examine the 11,161 ATOD diversions during the five-year period under study by age (**Figure 34**), race (**Figure 35**), and gender (**Figure 36**). The figures suggest that as age increases (until age 17), the number of youth diverted for ATOD offenses increases as well. The results also suggest that only 1 in 20 youth diverted for ATOD offenses (4.8%) are African-American, a percentage lower than the representation of African-American youth in the general Kentucky population. Almost three in four (71.7%) youth diverted for ATOD offenses were male over the five-year period.



**Figure 34**

**ATOD Diversions by Race (2002-2006)**

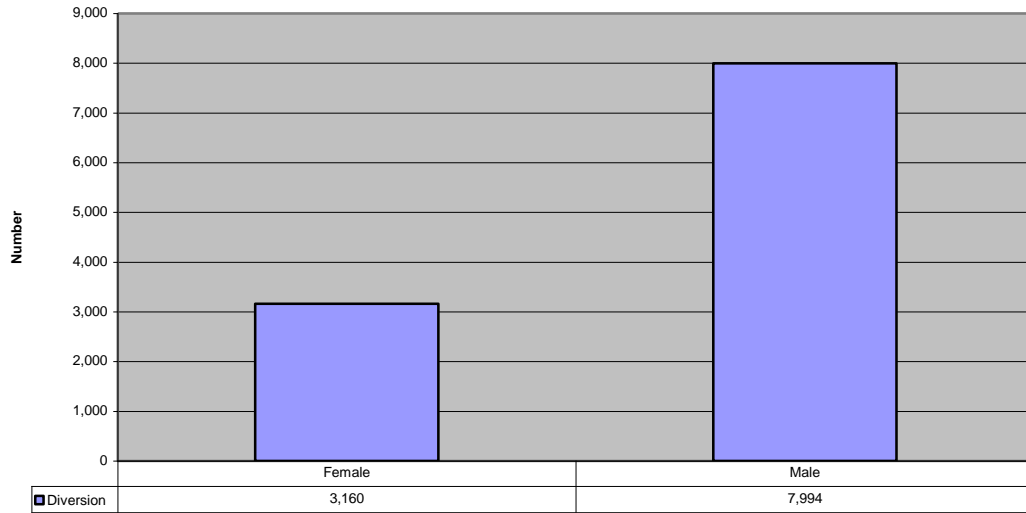
Source: CDW Database



**Figure 35**

**ATOD Diversions by Gender (2002-2006)**

Source: CDW Database



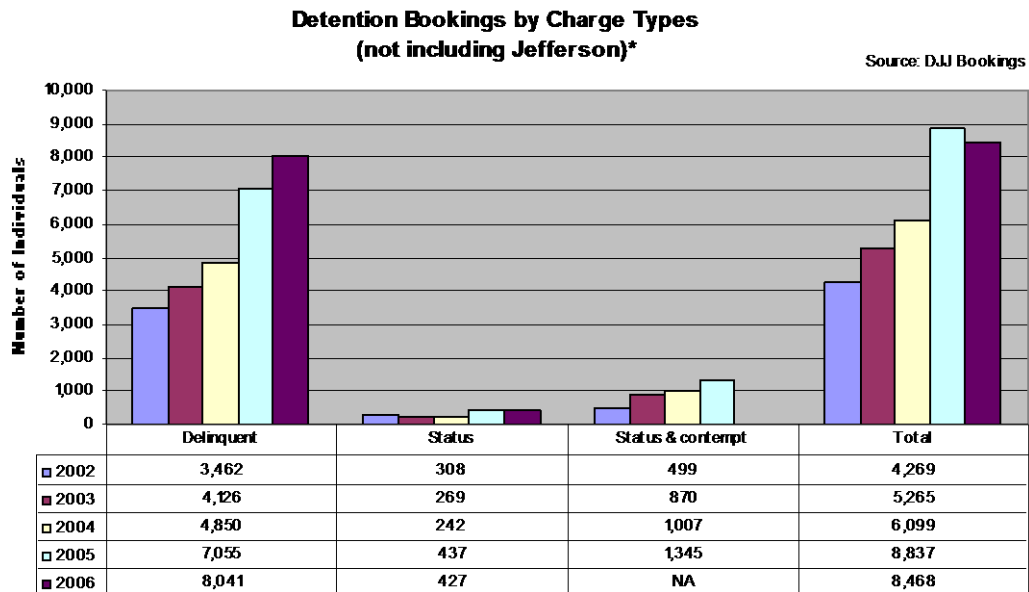
**Figure 36**

## Detentions

A separate database is maintained by the Department for Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to contain data regarding youth held in secure detention facilities. The data presented in **Figures 37** through **41** portray information from that database on all counties with the exception of Jefferson County. Data from Jefferson County is then presented in the graphs following those figures.

To examine the types of youth being served by the detention centers, data were analyzed by type of charge, gender, age, and race. The first graph (**Figure 37**) portrays the number of detention bookings by the type of charge. Booking is the process whereby a youth enters a secure detention facility. Three categories are used: delinquent only, status only, and status and contempt. The vast majority of youth served in these settings have been charged with a delinquent offense. This finding is consistent with the intended use of these facilities, in that they are designed to provide sufficient security to protect the community from additional delinquent acts.

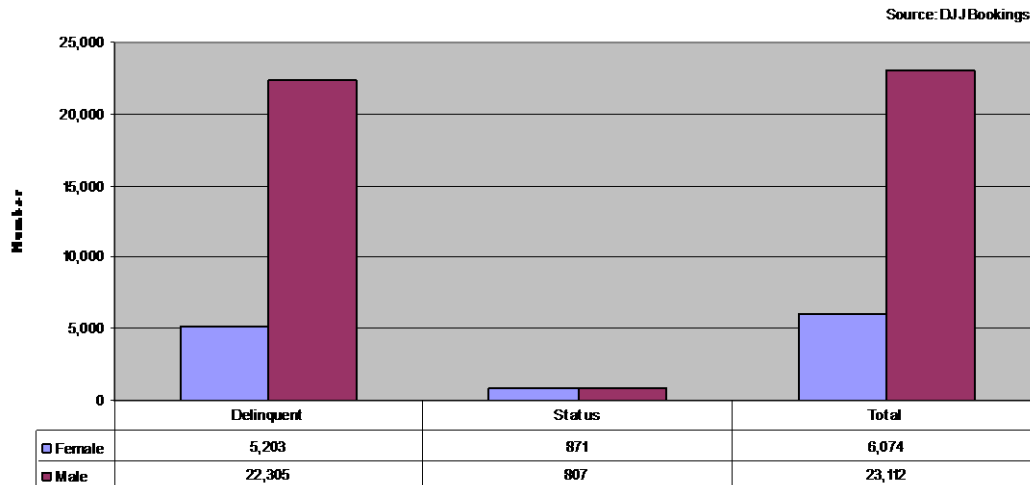
Data regarding detention bookings by gender are presented in **Figure 38**. Four in five (81.1%) youth booked into detention facilities for delinquency charges are male; interesting, the majority (51.9%) of youth booked into detention facilities for status offenses are female.



\* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Figure 37**

**Detention Bookings by Gender and Charge Type (2002-2006)  
(not including Jefferson)\***

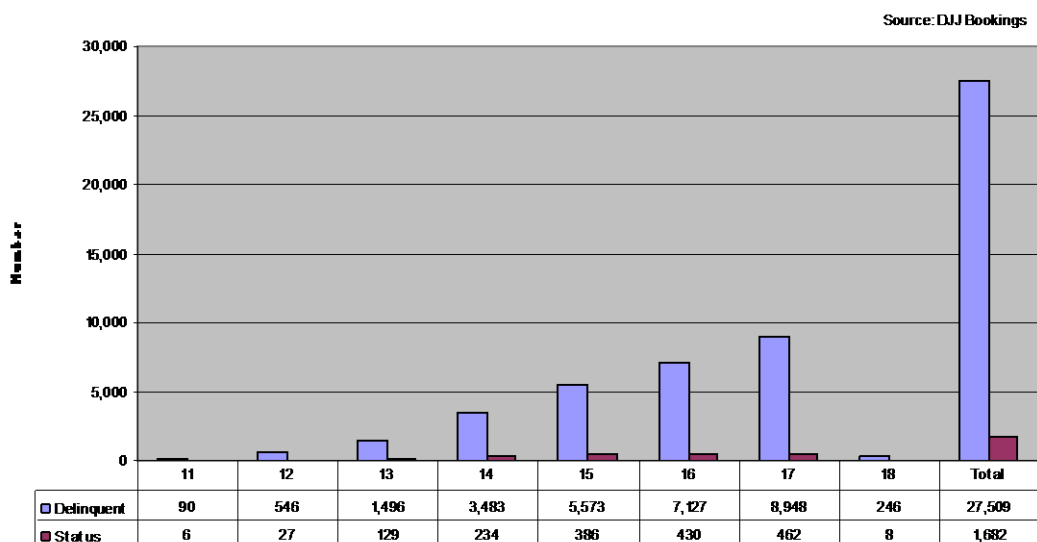


\* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Figure 38**

The number of youth booked in Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities by age is presented in **Figures 39 and 40**. The data presented in these figures suggest that the largest proportion of youth booked in DJJ facilities each year are ages 16 and 17 (58.1% for 2006). The data also suggest that the number of youth booked into DJJ facilities increased each year from 2002 to 2005, but decreased slightly (16.8%) from 2005 to 2006. This is particularly good news because the previous four years did not include data from Fayette County, the county with the second highest population in the state.

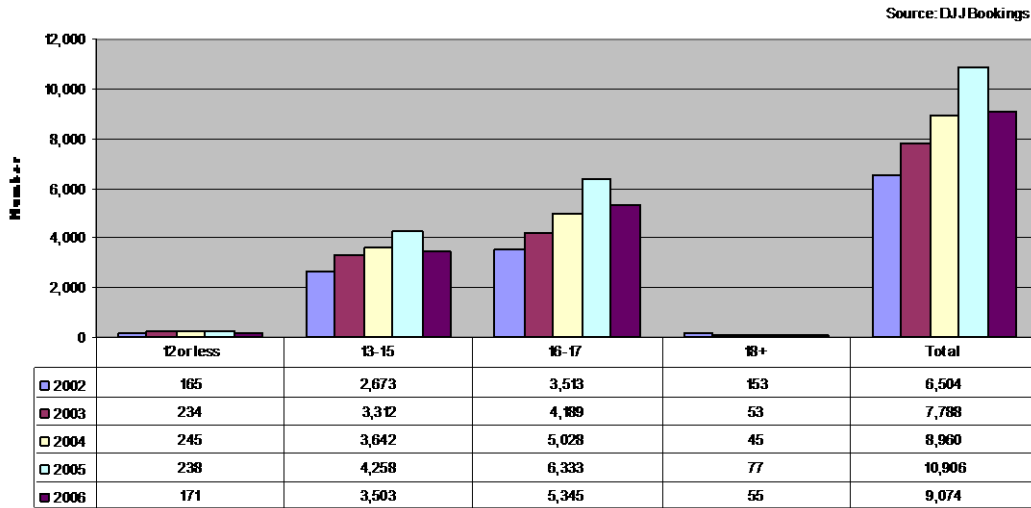
**Detention Bookings by Charge Type and Age (2002-2006)  
(not including Jefferson)\***



\* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Figure 39**

**Bookings in DJJ Detention Facilities by Age Range  
(not including Jefferson)\***

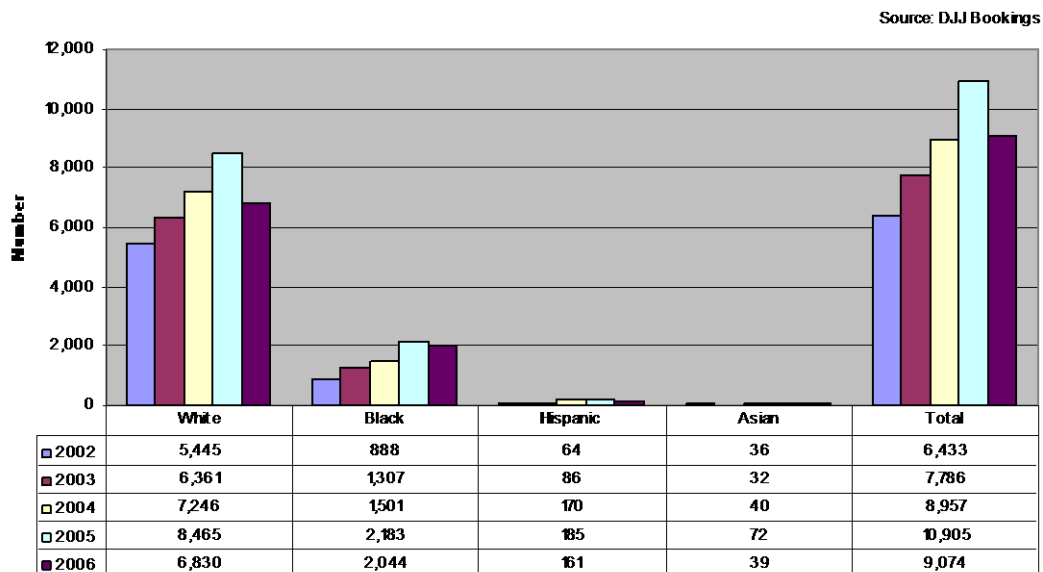


\* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Figure 40**

The number of youth booked into DJJ-operated detention facilities by race is presented in **Figure 41**. In 2006, African American youth represented 22.5% of the youth in these facilities. These data do not include data from Jefferson County, which has the largest African American population of any Kentucky county.

**Bookings in DJJ Detention Facilities by Race  
(not including Jefferson)\***

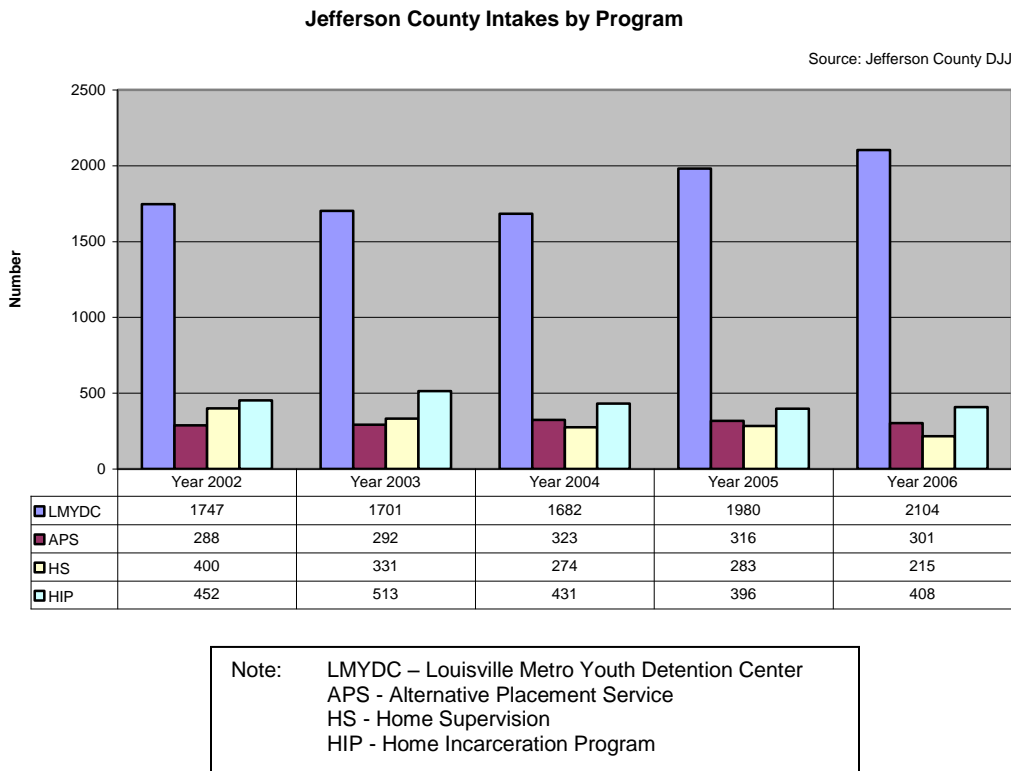


\* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Figure 41**



The next series of graphs pertain to Jefferson County only and are from Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center database. Their detention services include four options: the secure detention facility (LMYDC); an alternative placement service consisting of a 14-bed emergency shelter (APS); home supervision (HS); and home incarceration with electronic monitoring (HIP).



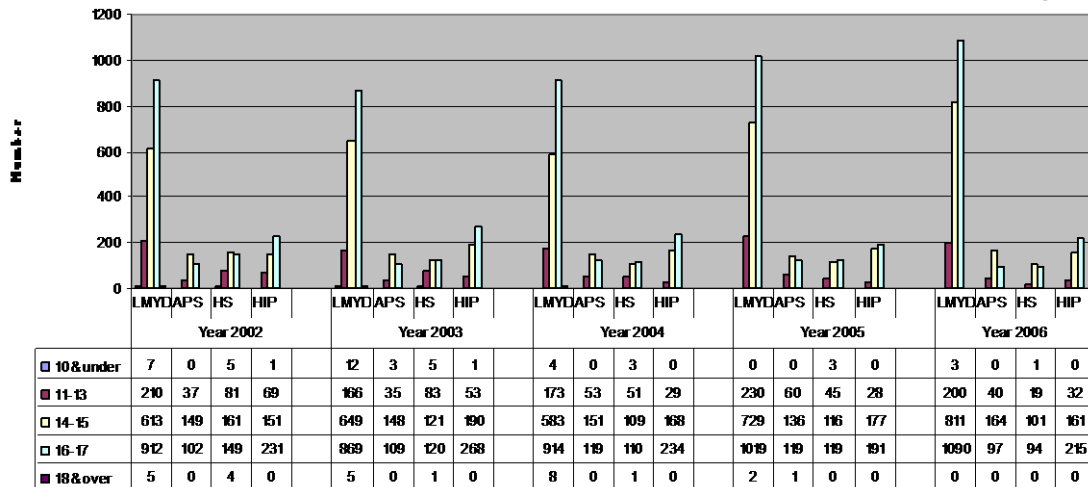
**Figure 42**

The first graph (**Figure 42**) shows the number of intakes by each of these four programs for each of the five years. In Jefferson County an activity is classified as an intake when a youth is brought to the Jefferson County Admissions area. Youth who appear in intake statistics do not have to be committed to a secure facility (e.g., home supervision). Jefferson County has had a steady increase in clients for the Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center over the five-year period; the number of youth supervised under home supervision and Home Incarceration has decreased slightly over the five year period, while the number of youth placed in the Alternative Placement Service has remained relatively stable over that same period.

The next graph (**Figure 43**) depicts the use of each of these programs by the age of the youth. Not surprisingly, youth who fall into the 14-15 and 16-17 age ranges make up the largest proportion of clients in each of the programs.

### Jefferson County Age Ranges at Intake

Source: Jefferson County DJJ

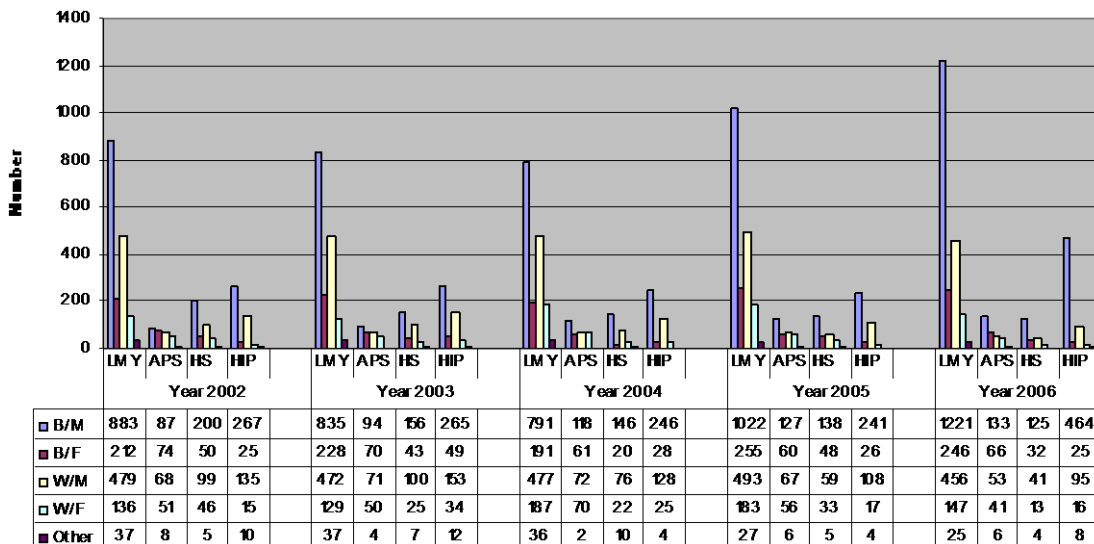


Note: LMYDC – Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center  
 APS - Alternative Placement Service  
 HS - Home Supervision  
 HIP - Home Incarceration Program

Figure 43

### Racial and Gender Characteristics of Jefferson County Placements

Source: Jefferson County DJJ

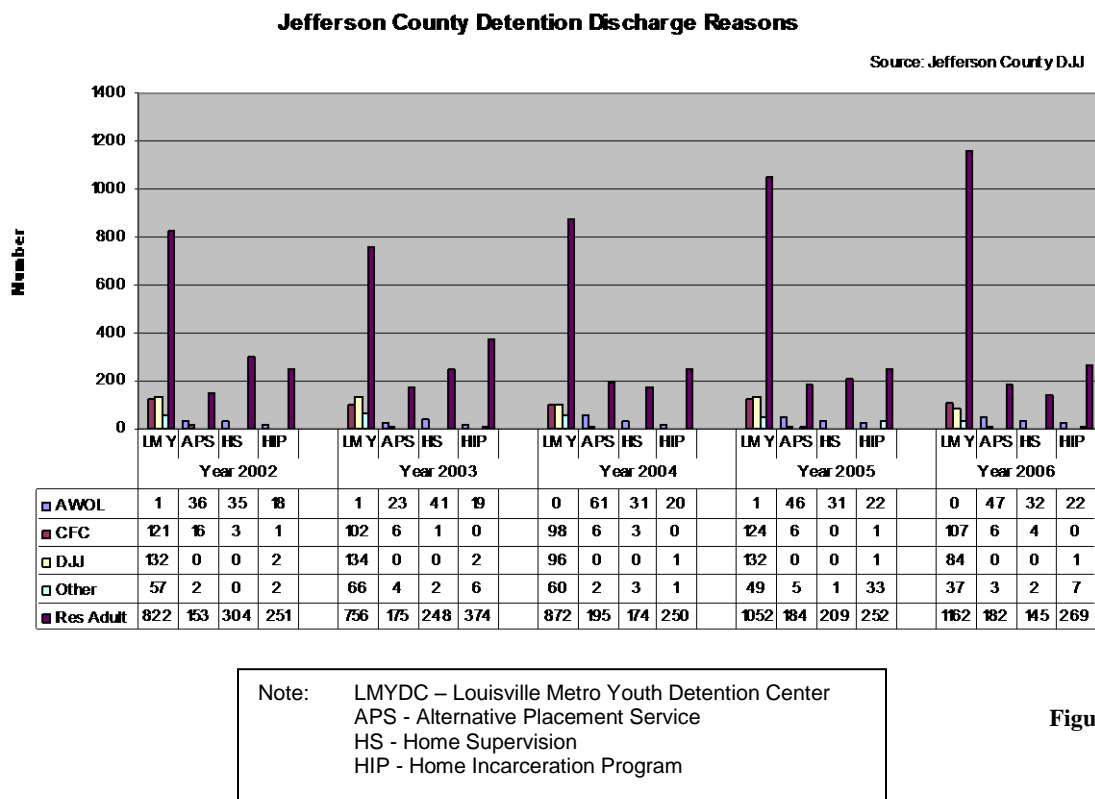


Note: LMYDC – Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center  
 APS - Alternative Placement Service  
 HS - Home Supervision  
 HIP - Home Incarceration Program

Figure 44

In **Figure 44**, Jefferson county placements are categorized by race and gender for the five years under study here. Black males represent the largest race-gender subgroup for each placement, suggesting that Black males are disproportionately more likely to receive a placement in Jefferson County. Jefferson County's population is approximately 20% African American; yet, in 2006, black youth accounted for 58.3% of the LMYDC clients, 44.5% of APS clients, 58.1% of HS clients, and 76.3% of HIP clients.

The following graph (**Figure 45**) presents the reason cited for the discharge (or release). In Jefferson county, youth are categorized into five separate types of discharges: (1) AWOL – Absent from the facility without permission; (2) CFC- released to the care of the Cabinet for Families and Children Department of Community Based Services; (3) DJJ- released to the supervision of DJJ; (4) Responsible Adult- released to the care of a responsible adult; and (5) Other- a release to a responsible party other than those described above. Regardless of the program or the year, the vast majority of youth are discharged to a responsible adult. Of the 2,110 youth discharged in 2006, approximately four in five were discharged to a responsible adult while approximately four percent were discharged to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). This finding held true in each of the five years under study.



**Figure 45**

## Juvenile Court Dispositions

Judges have a variety of dispositional options available to them. A disposition is a judicial decision reached concerning a youth's case. The types and frequency of use of these dispositions have been previously defined and portrayed. The data used to compile the following graphs were obtained from JORI (Juvenile Offender Resource Information) system that is operated and maintained by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The categories appearing on these graphs are those that are most frequently used for youth who have some DJJ involvement.

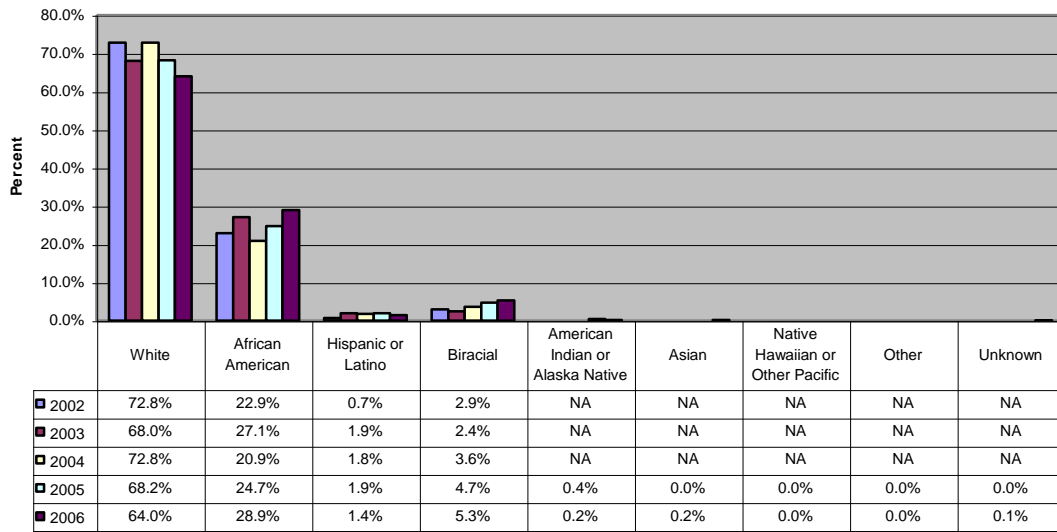
Generally, youth receive one disposition, even when multiple charges are filed against them for an incident. In some situations (i.e., a youth who has committed both a status offense and a delinquent offense may receive two separate dispositions), however, a youth can receive more than one disposition for the same incident. The following charts are thus based on dispositions rather than individuals.

The majority of the charges are addressed through a disposition of probation (where youth are allowed to live in the community under supervision of a juvenile probation officer) or judicial discretion. Judicial discretion is any disposition other than probation, commitment, confinement, or pending. The most infrequently used disposition is confinement. This term is used when individuals are committed as youthful offenders and placed in DJJ's Youth Development Centers. Another category is pending. The pending category means that a disposition is still pending on that case (the youth is awaiting a judicial decision on their case). A charge is dismissed when the court orders disposing of a case without conducting a trial of the issues. Dismissal may occur when there is a finding of insufficient evidence to bring the matter to trial, when no more decisions or actions are anticipated, or when the case is already being handled by another court.

The next series of five graphs (**Figures 46 to 50**) depict the various court dispositions (shown above) by race and ethnicity. More than one in four youth (28.9%) committed to DJJ custody in 2006 were African American; this proportion is similar to the proportion of youth who were committed to DJJ custody in each of the last four years. For both probation and dismissal, the proportion of youth receiving that disposition in 2006 that are African American is similar to the proportion of the youth population in Kentucky that is African American. For confinement and judicial discretion, however, the proportions of youth receiving those dispositions that are African American are roughly five times (for confinement) and four times (for judicial discretion) larger than the proportion of youth in the state that is African American. As such, African American youth are disproportionately represented in these two dispositions in each of the five years under study.

**Commitment Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity  
(within-group comparisons)**

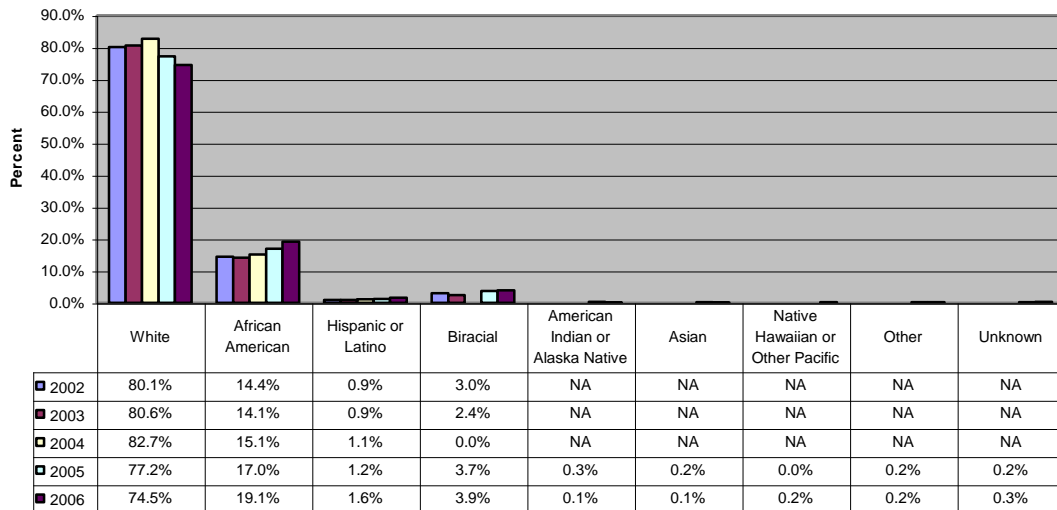
Source: JORI



**Figure 46**

**Probation Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity  
(within-group comparisons)**

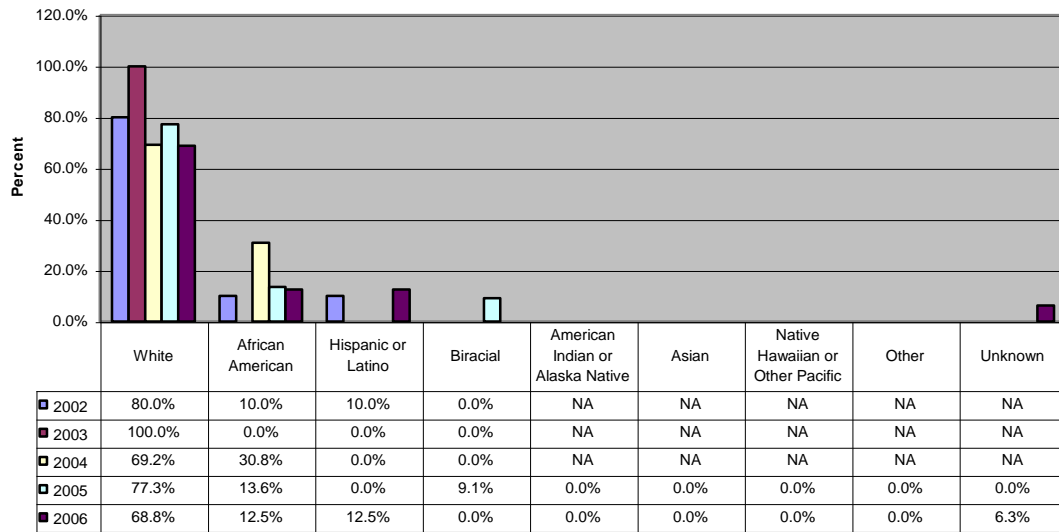
Source: JORI



**Figure 47**

**Dismissal Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity  
(within-group comparisons)**

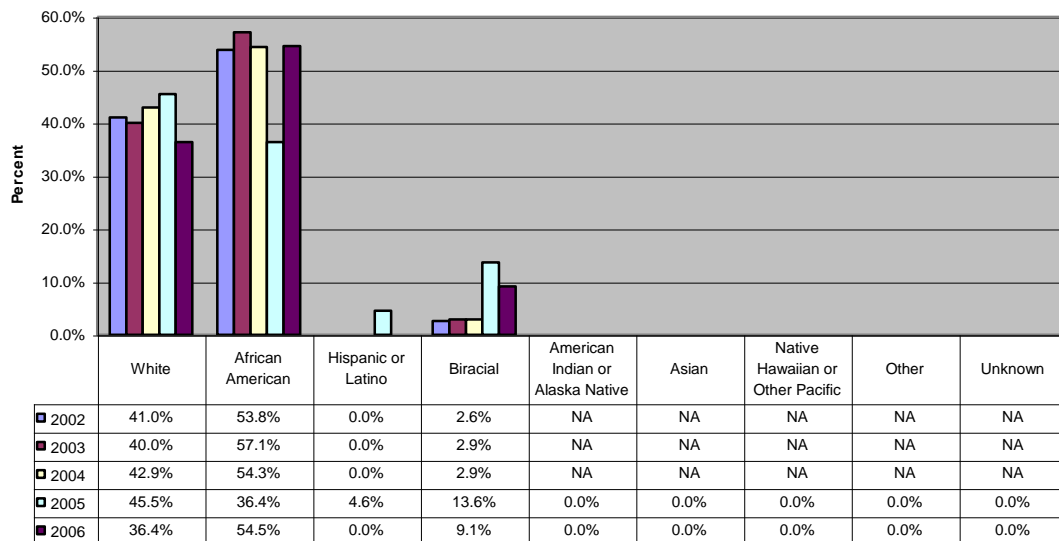
Source: JORI



**Figure 48**

**Confinement Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity  
(within-group comparisons)**

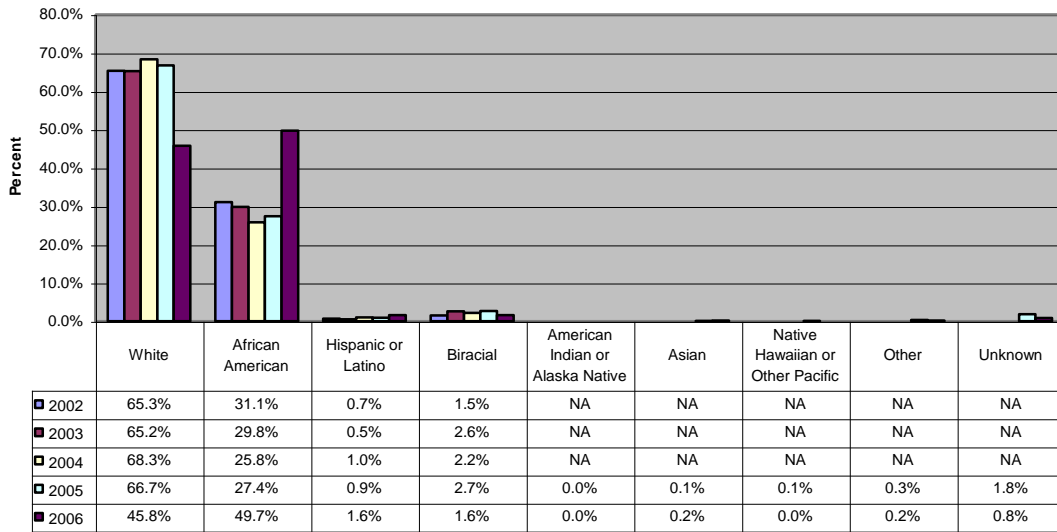
Source: JORI



**Figure 49**

**Judicial Discretion Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (within-group comparisons)**

Source: JORI



**Figure 50**

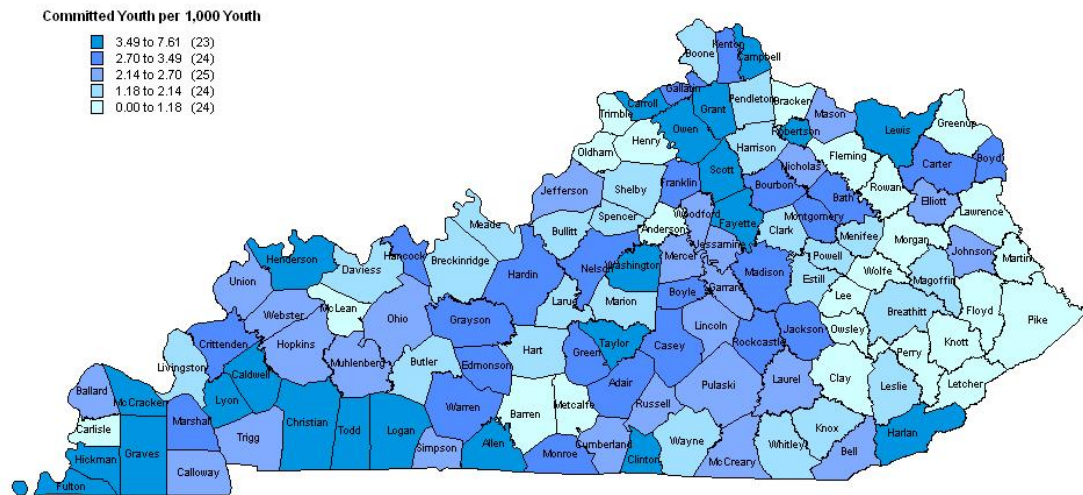
The number of youth committed and probated to DJJ in 2006 by the county of the youth's residence (home county) is presented in **Table 8**. Because these are numbers rather than rates, the population centers of Kentucky are found in the top tier of both categories. The top ten counties for number of commitment dispositions (listed in order from the county with the largest number of commitment dispositions) are Jefferson, Fayette, Kenton, Hardin, Christian, Campbell, Henderson, McCracken, Warren, and Madison counties. The top ten counties for number of probation dispositions are as follows (listed in order from the county with the largest number of probation dispositions): Christian, Jefferson, Madison, Hardin, Fayette, Boone, Bullitt, Kenton, Grayson, and Campbell counties. These numbers are converted to rates per 1,000 youth population and depicted graphically on the maps in **Figures 51 and 52**. Unlike much of the other data presented throughout the report, no regional patterns are immediately apparent for these dispositions, although Western and Central Kentucky counties appear to have higher rates for both the rate of youth committed and the rate of youth probated to DJJ.

**Table 8: Number of Youth Committed and Probated to DJJ in 2006 by Home County**

<b>County</b>	<b>Commit</b>	<b>Probate</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Commit</b>	<b>Probate</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Commit</b>	<b>Probate</b>
Adair	6	7	Grant	14	11	McLean	1	5
Allen	10	6	Graves	17	13	Meade	7	14
Anderson	2	13	Grayson	8	29	Menifee	1	1
Ballard	2	2	Green	4	3	Mercer	5	4
Barren	4	13	Greenup	0	1	Metcalfe	1	4
Bath	4	1	Hancock	3	11	Monroe	4	0
Bell	9	3	Hardin	41	50	Montgomery	7	14
Boone	13	33	Harlan	15	12	Morgan	1	17
Bourbon	7	15	Harrison	4	14	Muhlenberg	8	4
Boyd	18	18	Hart	3	3	Nelson	15	21
Boyle	8	4	Henderson	28	22	Nicholas	2	3
Bracken	1	1	Henry	1	1	Ohio	7	25
Breathitt	3	10	Hickman	4	5	Oldham	4	4
Breckinridge	4	7	Hopkins	12	18	Owen	6	2
Bullitt	14	32	Jackson	5	2	Owsley	0	2
Butler	3	8	Jefferson	159	75	Pendleton	3	5
Caldwell	6	8	Jessamine	12	17	Perry	1	6
Calloway	7	21	Johnson	7	3	Pike	5	4
Campbell	40	29	Kenton	61	29	Powell	3	9
Carlisle	0	3	Knott	0	2	Pulaski	14	9
Carroll	6	2	Knox	6	1	Robertson	1	1
Carter	10	6	LaRue	2	4	Rockcastle	6	3
Casey	6	3	Laurel	15	1	Rowan	2	9
Christian	41	86	Lawrence	0	2	Russell	4	6
Clark	6	13	Lee	0	2	Scott	14	7
Clay	1	0	Leslie	2	1	Shelby	8	1
Clinton	4	0	Letcher	3	21	Simpson	5	6
Crittenden	3	1	Lewis	7	4	Spencer	2	0
Cumberland	2	3	Lincoln	6	3	Taylor	11	13
Daviess	19	19	Livingston	2	1	Todd	5	10
Edmonson	4	1	Logan	12	7	Trigg	3	9
Elliott	2	7	Lyon	3	7	Trimble	1	0
Estill	2	3	Madison	22	54	Union	5	3
Fayette	142	44	Magoffin	3	0	Warren	28	13
Fleming	1	4	Marion	3	6	Washington	5	0
Floyd	0	3	Marshall	9	16	Wayne	5	0
Franklin	14	14	Martin	1	2	Webster	4	4
Fulton	7	8	Mason	5	8	Whitley	6	0
Gallatin	3	2	McCracken	28	14	Wolfe	1	1
Garrard	4	1	McCreary	6	1	Woodford	6	1



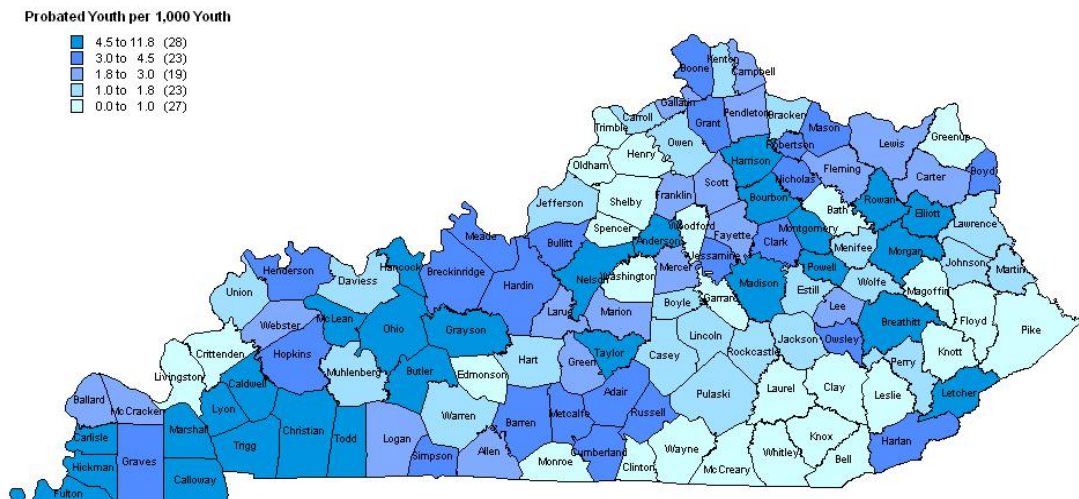
## 2006 Committed Youth by County of Residence



Source: JORI

Figure 51

## 2006 Probated Youth by County of Residence

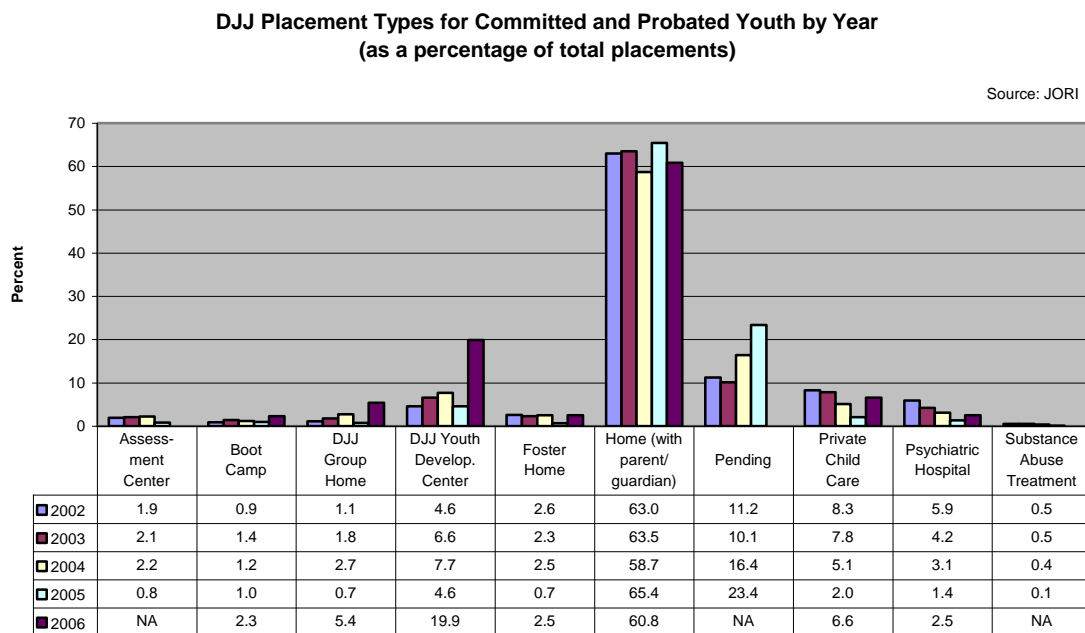


Source: JORI

Figure 52

## V. Placement of Committed and Probated Youth

The data presented in **Figure 53** depict the percentage of youth in the various types of placements for calendar years 2002-2006. These placements are described in Table 9. Between 59% and 65% of youth under the supervision of DJJ resided at home with their parent or guardian in each of the five years under study. During the five-year period, the proportion of youth committed or probated to boot camp, group homes, and youth development centers increased sharply (and most of that increase occurred between 2005 and 2006). The proportion of youth committed or probated to foster homes, private child care, and psychiatric hospitals either remained steady or declined over the five-year period. For 2006, assessment center, pending, and substance abuse data were not available so the proportions for 2006 are calculated with those categories missing.



**Figure 53**

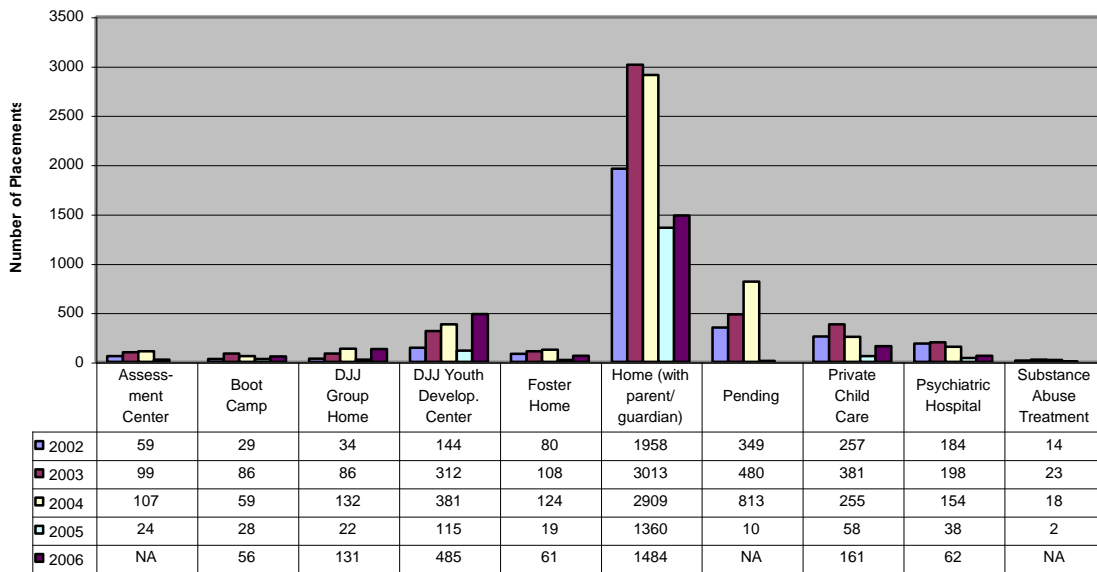
**Table 9. Descriptions of DJJ Dispositions**

<b>Placement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Assessment Center	Short-time residential facility where youth is placed to determine physical and/or mental health needs prior to long-term placement. The Assessment Center became a Youth Development Center on Nov. 1, 2005.
Boot Camp	The Cadet Leadership and Education Program (CLEP) combine traditional military drilling and regimen with intensive therapeutic services and supported transition back to the community. Serves adjudicated male delinquents, ages 14-17. Youth participate in the program for a minimum of eight months -- four months of residential treatment and four months of supervised community placement
DJJ Group Home	These are DJJ-operated treatment programs that serve 8 to 10 youth between the ages of 12 and 18 (per home) and are located in different counties across the state.
DJJ Youth Develop.	DJJ operates Youth Development Centers statewide housing both public and youthful offenders who have been committed to the state or sentenced as youthful offenders. The centers range in size from 30 to 80 beds.
Foster Home	Youth are placed in foster care by DJJ where parents have a smaller number of placements in the home and have received extensive training to deal with mental health issues
Home (with parent)	Youth is sent home with parents, either on some type of probation or as a commitment placement to the home by DJJ.
Pending	Youth that is awaiting a court disposition.
Private Child Care	Private Child Care facilities are licensed by the State and provide a structured, non-secure setting for both offender and non-offender youth in a community setting. DJJ contracts with private child care agencies in the state for additional services.
Psychiatric Hospital	Youth is released to the care of an in-patient psychiatric hospital.
Substance Abuse	Youth is released to a substance abuse program, both residential and in a community supervision setting.

The next graph (**Figure 54**) portrays the same data on the basis of number (rather than percentage) of youth residing in each of the available settings. The placement numbers exceed the number of entering youth in a given year due to multiple placements. The trends reflected in **Figure 53** hold true in **Figure 54** as well. In data not presented here, the JORI data reflect that the vast majority of youth in each placement are male; with the exception of commitment or probation to foster homes and group homes (where the proportion of youth probated or committed is about 70% male each year), this proportion generally exceeds 80% in each year under study.

**DJJ Placement Types for Committed and Probated Youth by Year (Number)**

Source: JORI

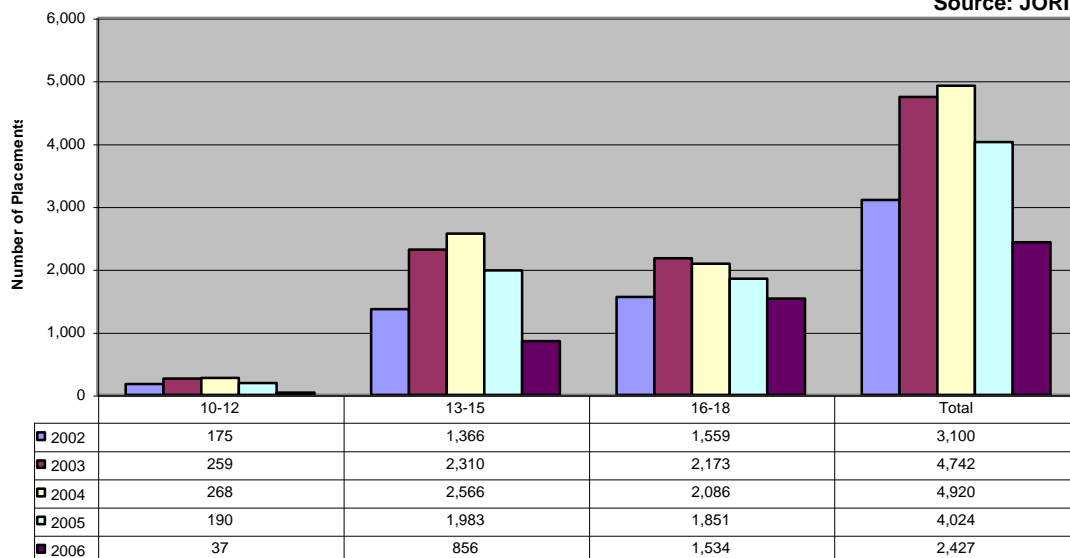


**Figure 54**

**Figure 55** reveals the number of youth committed and probated to DJJ by age category. Over the five-year period (but particularly between 2005 and 2006), the number of youth aged 10-12 and 13-15 committed and probated to DJJ decreased dramatically (78.9% for 10-12 and 37.3% for 13-15). The number of youth between the ages of 16 and 18 committed and probated to DJJ during that same time period increased slightly for the first three years and decreased slightly for the remainder of the time period.

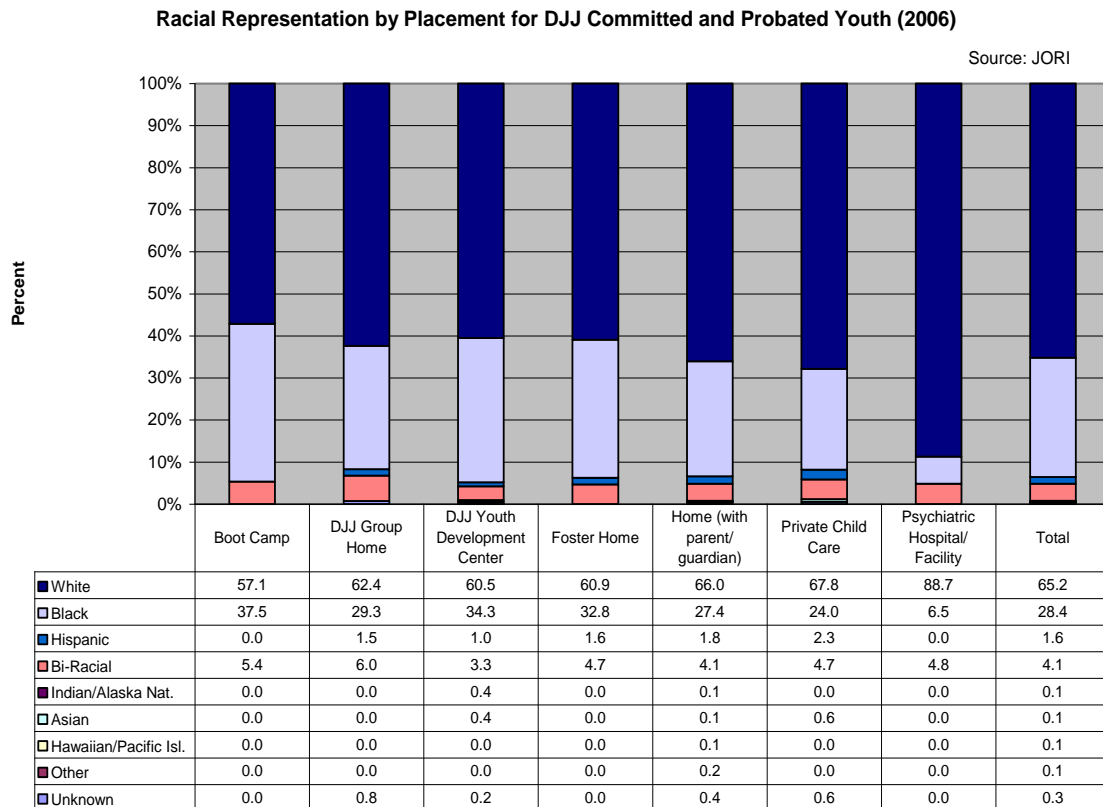
**Placement of DJJ Committed and Probated Youth by Age Range**

Source: JORI



**Figure 55**

In **Figure 56**, the proportion of youths committed and probated in 2006 is presented by racial/ethnic group for each of the identified settings. The last bar on the graph provides the overall proportion by race/ethnicity of the DJJ committed and probated youth. White youth are over-represented in psychiatric hospitals, while black youth are over-represented in all other categories.



**Figure 56**

## VI. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

### Access for DJJ Youth and Youth at Risk

The Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (DMHMRS) contracts with the Research and Data Management Center at the University of Kentucky to collect and analyze data from the state's 14 regional community mental health and mental retardation centers. These centers provide mental health, substance abuse and mental retardation services to individuals throughout the commonwealth. Below is a map of the regional boundaries of the 14 centers (Figure 57).

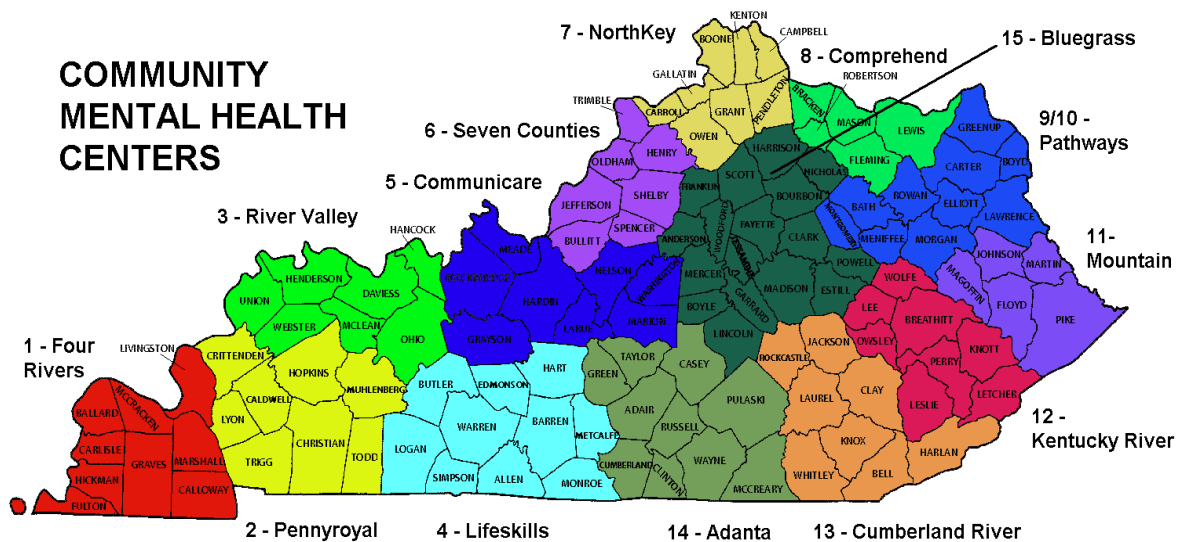
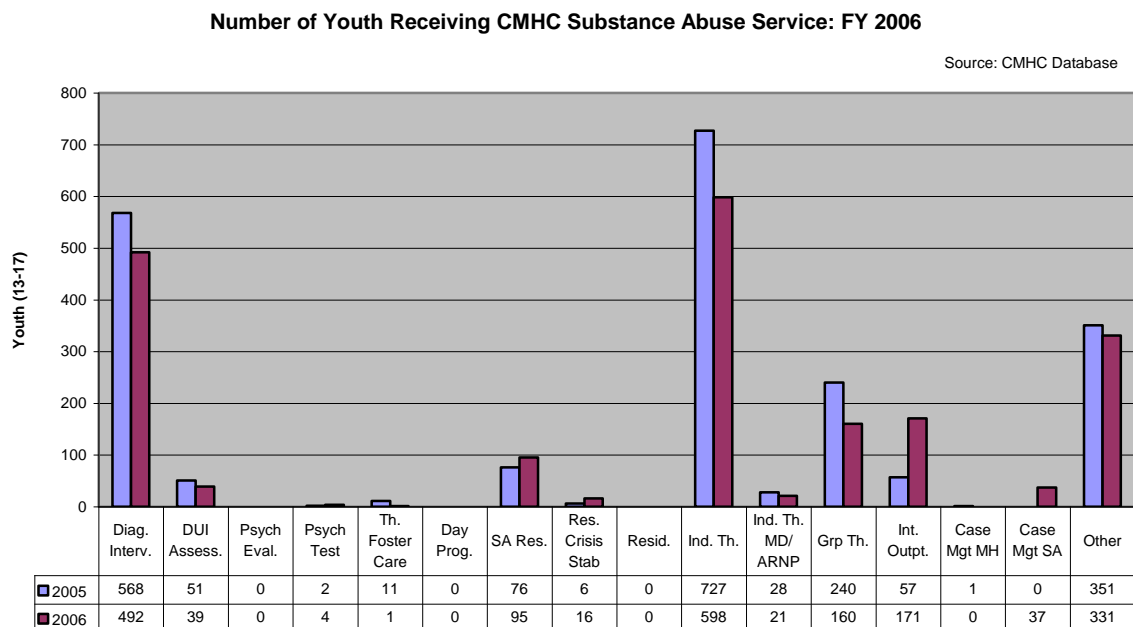


Figure 57

Although not presented graphically here, the data obtained from the DMHDS for 2006 suggest that the rates for youth receiving mental health treatment services is much higher than the rates for youth receiving substance abuse treatment services statewide. These rates also vary dramatically by region, as the market penetration rates in the Comprehend, Pathways, Kentucky River, and Adanta regions are much higher than the statewide average for both mental health services and substance abuse treatment services while market penetration rates are much lower than the statewide average in Four Rivers, Pennyroyal, and Northkey regions for mental health treatment and in Pennyroyal, River Valley, and Seven Counties regions for substance abuse treatment.

One of the factors contributing to the higher number of mental health services (when compared to substance abuse treatment services) throughout the state is the availability of reimbursement. With the exception of a relatively small number of youth who are served through the EPSDT (early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment) program, Medicaid does not cover substance abuse treatment for youth. Medicaid, however, is a significant resource for eligible youth who need a mental health services and many youth who are coded as receiving treatment for mental health services for reimbursement purposes receive substance abuse treatment at the same time.

**Figure 58** depicts the number of youth who received a substance abuse service from one of Kentucky's 14 community mental health centers (CMHCs) during fiscal year 2006. The services are described in Table 10. The most frequently delivered services to youth with a substance abuse diagnosis were individual therapy and diagnostic interviews. These numbers are unduplicated by service only: if a youth receives more than one service, he/she will be counted in more than one column.



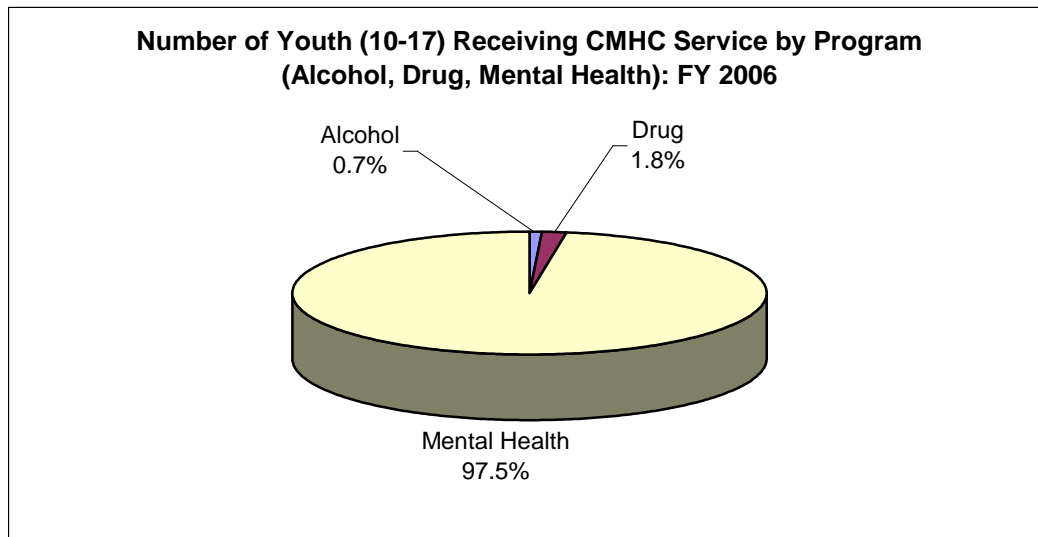
**Figure 58**

**Table 10. Table of Explanation of CMHC Substance Abuse Services**

Abbreviation	Service	Service Description
Diag. Interv.	Diagnostic Interview	Youth participate in detailed interview to determine what services are needed
DUI Assess	DUI Assessment	Youth was committed because of dui and is receiving services to assess alcohol-related issues
Psych. Eval	Psychological Evaluation	Youth was ordered to undergo psychological evaluation as a result of their commitment
Pscyh. Test	Psychological Testing	Youth was ordered to undergo specific psychological tests as part of their commitment
Th. Foster Care	Therapeutic Foster Care	Youth was placed in foster care where parents have a smaller number of placements in the home and have received extensive training to deal with mental health issues
Day Prog.	Day Programming	Youth are required to report to Juvenile Probation Office to undergo treatment and counseling services
SA Res.	Substance Abuse Residential	Youth are sent to residential treatment center where they receive intensive substance abuse treatment
Res. Crisis Stab.	Residential Crisis Stabilization Unit	Youth are sent to residential treatment center where they receive acute, short-term substance abuse treatment to stabilize youth for care in residential treatment centers
Ind. Th.	Individual Therapy	Youth receive one-on-one counseling with a mental health professional
Ind. Th./MD ARNP	Individual Therapy	Youth receive individual therapy with a medical doctor or advanced registered nurse practitioner.
Grp. Th.	Group Therapy	Youth receive counseling with mental health professionals in a group setting
Int. Outpt.	Intensive Outpatient Therapy	Youth receive intensive mental health services outside of a residential mental health center
Case Mgt. MH	Case Management Mental Health	Youth receive case management services for mental-health related issues
Case Mgt. SA	Case Management Substance Abuse	Youth receive case management services for substance abuse issues
Other	Other services not classified in any previous category	A series of miscellaneous treatment services and outcomes not classified in any previous category



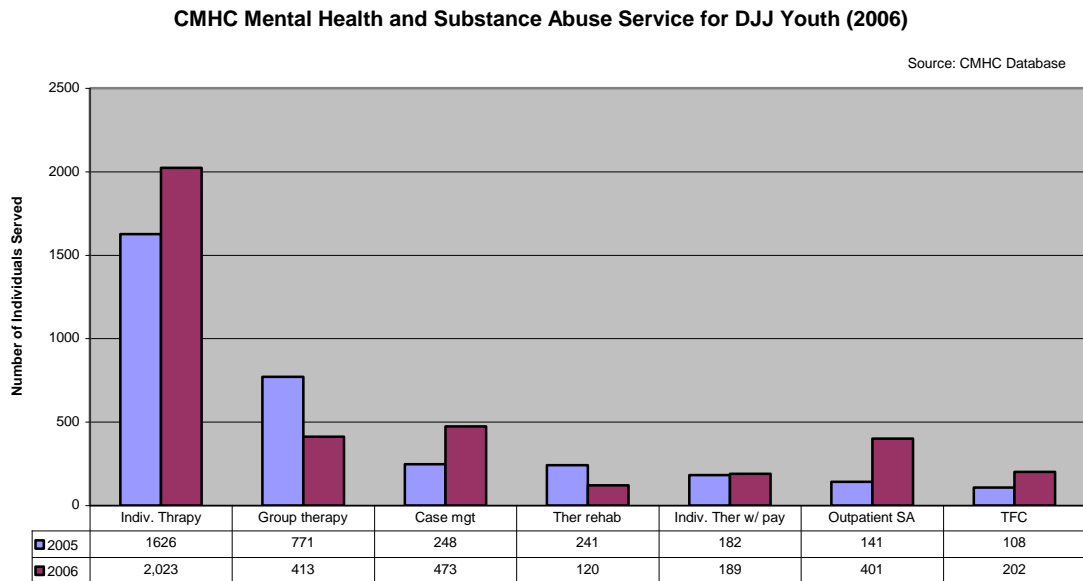
The numbers displayed in the graph above pertain to youth with a substance abuse (alcohol or other drug) diagnosis. As portrayed in the pie graph below (**Figure 59**), this is only a small portion of the youth served by the CMHCs. Remember, however, that many youth who are coded as receiving treatment for mental health services for reimbursement purposes from Medicaid receive substance abuse treatment at the same time.



**Figure 59**

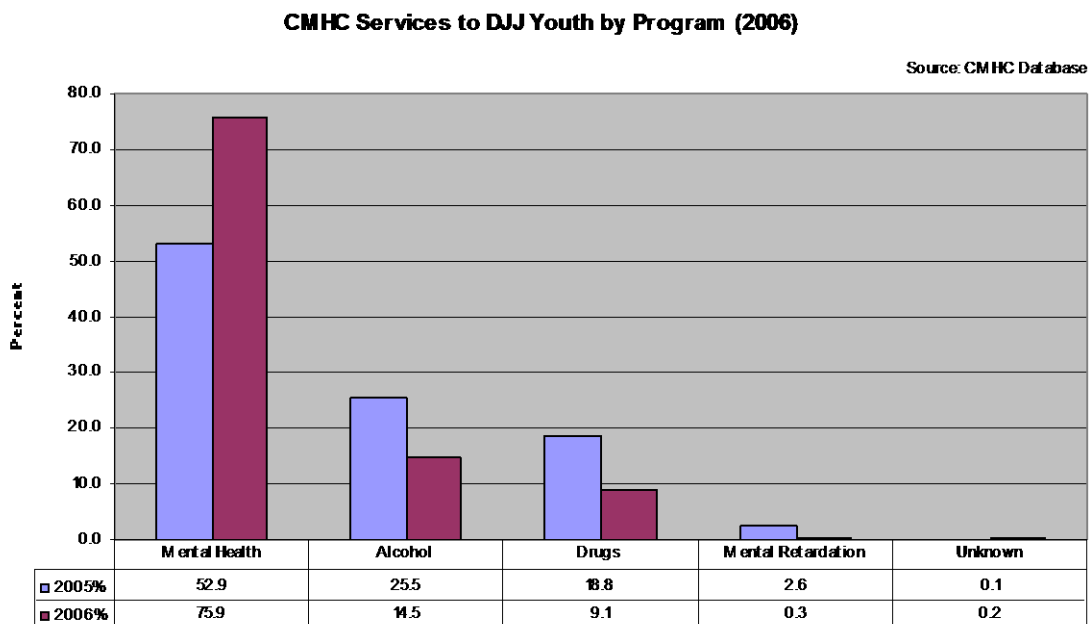
### **CMHC Services to DJJ Youth**

The next two graphs (**Figures 60 and 61**) describe actual services received by DJJ youth. More than half (52.9%) of these youth had received individual therapy at some point in time, many with additional psychiatric services. A smaller portion received group therapy, and a small subset received services in specialized service programs in a couple of regions.



**Figure 60**

The distribution of DJJ youth by program is indicated in the graph below. Three in four (75.9%) DJJ youth were served in the mental health program, while almost one in four (23.6%) were served in the substance abuse programs (alcohol and drugs).



**Figure 61**

## VII. Recommendations for Improving Future Analyses

In this report, we have continued an unprecedented effort to take a comprehensive look at the interagency involvement of a large cohort of youth in Kentucky. We were aided in this effort by the fact that agencies across government have devoted considerable time and resources to the creation of the systems that are useful to administrators and that are responsive to the increasing calls for accountability. Without these data collection efforts by these key agencies, a report of this magnitude would be impossible. As such, we commend these agencies for the progress they have made in their automated data systems. We are also indebted to the R.E.A.C.H. authors that wrote an earlier version of this report (R.E.A.C.H., 2005) for the framework of the report and the often difficult steps the R.E.A.C.H. research staff took in laying the foundation for a report of this magnitude.

Consequently, the problems/suggestions identified below are presented against a background of appreciation for the progress that has been made and those who were instrumental in those efforts. Nevertheless, despite this progress, there are still a number of areas of improvement that are needed.

As both the R.E.A.C.H. authors and us suggested earlier, the systems in place within the state agencies providing data for this effort are ambitious in terms of the data being requested. However, many of the fields continue to have missing data, and any analysis is compromised by the incompleteness of the data. Continuing efforts to make staff accountable for both complete and accurate data are needed to insure that data used for accountability purposes are as valid as possible in the context in which they are collected. Secondly, following the suggestions of the R.E.A.C.H. research staff, wherever possible, system flags need to be incorporated into the data bases that will reject impossible/question improbable responses. For example, youth should have birthdates within a range that is possible for inclusion in the system. Forced choices and drop down menus were extremely helpful in securing data that could be analyzed. This methodology should continue to be used whenever practical.

One limitation of these data (primarily due to the problem described above) became readily apparent during our discussions with DJJ personnel in the final drafting of the report. In **Table 11** below, data regarding mental health and substance abuse services provided by DJJ are presented. These data (from the second half of 2006) suggest a large number of substance abuse and mental health services that are provided by DJJ but may or may not be captured in the data regarding mental health services and substance abuse treatment from the agencies that provided the data for the analyses above. As such, it is essential that these state agencies work together to capture the best data possible and share that data whenever possible. As we suggested last year (May & Chen, 2006), one solution to this problem would be to have a standardized memorandum of understanding (MOU) and release of confidential information forms for all state agencies so that data sharing between state agencies is more efficient and less problematic. Anecdotal evidence from the various partners involved in the data compilation for this effort continues to suggest that this data sharing process has improved but further effort should be taken to continue this process in the future.

Additionally, as we suggested previously, data dictionaries and codebooks should be readily available to users and those analyzing data (people who input the data and people who retrieve and analyze the data) if data entry is to be useful and data interpretation is to be meaningful. Subcontractors who compile agency reports should also be required to make these codebooks available to the agency as part of the contract to produce the report. Some agencies and subcontractors have these available; others do not. These dictionaries are a ready reference for understanding codes that are used (when numbers or abbreviations are used in lieu of words). Our own experience in the creation of a codebook for both the previous report (May & Chen, 2006) and this report suggest that this codebook is an invaluable tool, and all agencies should move toward their own codebook for each dataset they produce.

We share the experience of the R.E.A.C.H. researchers who found it easier to track the pathway of the charge than the pathway of the child. Much of the information in the justice system is built on the charge data, and tracks the charge (rather than the youth) through the system to a disposition. No doubt, this is essential and we also understand that the disposition that affects the placement outcome of the youth can change as new charges are incurred or as a youth is released from commitment or probation. However, it was difficult, from the data made available to us and the difficulty of the matching process to identify a single/primary disposition for a youth (rather than a charge) at a particular point in time.

Finally, we continue to believe the suggestion provided by R.E.A.C.H. (2005) and ourselves (May & Chen, 2006) that any similar process in the future could benefit from an even closer working relationship between the contracted evaluators and the managers and users of the data systems. In this particular project, concerns about confidentiality among one agency severely hampered the process and limited the effectiveness of the report because of the timeliness with which they provided the data. As suggested by the previous report's authors, future projects would benefit from access to a core group of agency staff (or, even better, one key contact person whose sole responsibility is to consolidate the data between agencies and facilitate data analysis) in specific and time-limited ways, by serving as consultants to the consultants. Specifically, had there been sufficient time once the data was received, it would have been helpful to meet with staff who are directly involved in the system at the community level. Our sense is that, had the data arrived in a timely manner well in advance of the submission deadline, these efforts would have been productive. Our extensive dialogue with DJJ personnel was immensely helpful for providing context for the report and strengthening our confidence in its findings. If all agencies were to provide that support, each subsequent update of this report could be improved until all parties concerned were confident in the data reported here. Until that point is reached, there is always more room for improvement.

**Table 11. Description of Mental Health Services for DJJ Youth (July-December, 2006)**

Program	District/ MH Branch	# of Youth Assessed July - December 2006	SA Service Hours July - December 2006		
			Youth	Family	Total
COMMUNITY		2134	1333	737	2070
CENTRAL REGION	Adair YDC	174	28	123	151
	Adair RJDC	270	0	457	457
	Bowling Green GH	55	1	88	89
	Green River YDC	160	188	112	300
	Hardin Co.Day Treatment	54	0	4	4
	Lincoln Village YDC	143	0	0	0
	Lincoln Village RJDC	89	90	370	460
	Warren RJDC	38	149	142	291
EAST REGION	Ashland Day Treatment	67	36	149	185
	Ashland GH	43	73	125	198
	Bluegrass YDC	224	167	464	631
	Boyd RJDC	281	357	388	745
	Fayette RJDC	127	239	326	565
	Frenchburg GH	40	146	152	298
	Morehead YDC	142	178	199	377
	Woodsbend YDC	264	120	710	830
NORTH REGION	Audubon YDC	169	156	0	156
	Campbell RJDC	660	389	2201	2590
	Frankfort GH	46	84	94	178
	Louisville Day Treatment	142	68	81	149
	Northern KY Day Treatment	64	12	0	12
	Northern KY YDC	89	347	995	1342
	Westport GH	50	9	0	9
SOUTHEAST REGION	Burnside GH	58	162	481	643
	Breathitt RJDC	110	222	166	388
	CLEP	150	301	365	666
	Lake Cumberland YDC	244	715	905	1620
	Laurel RJDC	NA	NA	NA	NA
	London GH	61	0	541	541
	Middlesboro GH	48	168	96	264
WEST REGION	Christian Co. Day Treatment	148	4	0	4
	Hopkinsville GH	44	1	80	81
	Mayfield GH	40	266	433	699
	Mayfield YDC	173	111	475	586
	McCracken RJDC	684	130	644	774
	Owensboro Day Treatment	47	0	0	0
	Owensboro YDC	93	26	108	134
DJJ MENTAL HEALTH	Central Mental Health Branch	64	109	17	126
	East Mental Health Branch	86	195	34	229
	West Mental Health Branch	200	266	3	269
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,775</b>	<b>6,846</b>	<b>12,265</b>	<b>19,111</b>

In closing, we want to thank the following persons for their assistance:

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We appreciate the opportunity to be involved in this initiative. There is much more information to be gleaned from the data that was made available, but it was beyond the scope of this project. We trust that the groundwork that has been laid by DJJ and the JJAB in the undertaking of a cross-agency analysis will pave the way for additional research into the experiences and outcomes of youth involved in Kentucky's juvenile justice system.

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